



# National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

<b>Location:</b>	Knox City, TX	<b>Accident Number:</b>	FTW04LA070
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	02/02/2004, 1630 CST	<b>Registration:</b>	N8936W
<b>Aircraft:</b>	Piper PA-28-235	<b>Injuries:</b>	1 None
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

## Analysis

During a cross-country flight, the 194-hour private pilot decided to land in a field at his ranch. Upon landing in the field, the left main landing gear tire sunk into the soft ground and the pilot lost control of the aircraft. The aircraft turned to the left and the pilot employed right rudder in an unsuccessful attempt to counter the left turn. The pilot reported that the field was "soft."

## Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The pilot's attempt to land on terrain not suitable for landing. A contributing factor was the soft terrain.

## Findings

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF CONTROL - ON GROUND/WATER  
Phase of Operation: LANDING - ROLL

### Findings

1. (C) UNSUITABLE TERRAIN OR TAKEOFF/LANDING/TAXI AREA - ATTEMPTED - PILOT IN COMMAND  
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Occurrence #2: ON GROUND/WATER ENCOUNTER WITH TERRAIN/WATER  
Phase of Operation: LANDING - ROLL

### Findings

2. (F) TERRAIN CONDITION - SOFT

## Pilot Information

<b>Certificate:</b>	Private	<b>Age:</b>	42
<b>Airplane Rating(s):</b>	Single-engine Land	<b>Instrument Rating(s):</b>	None
<b>Other Aircraft Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Instructor Rating(s):</b>	None
<b>Flight Time:</b>	194 hours (Total, all aircraft), 108 hours (Total, this make and model), 120 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft)		

## Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

<b>Aircraft Make:</b>	Piper	<b>Registration:</b>	N8936W
<b>Model/Series:</b>	PA-28-235	<b>Engines:</b>	1 Reciprocating
<b>Operator:</b>	Robert J. Crowell	<b>Engine Manufacturer:</b>	Lycoming
<b>Operating Certificate(s) Held:</b>	None	<b>Engine Model/Series:</b>	O-540
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

## Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

<b>Conditions at Accident Site:</b>	Visual Conditions	<b>Condition of Light:</b>	Day
<b>Observation Facility, Elevation:</b>	TRL, 474 ft msl	<b>Weather Information Source:</b>	Weather Observation Facility
<b>Lowest Ceiling:</b>	None	<b>Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:</b>	10 knots / , 310°
<b>Temperature:</b>	9°C	<b>Visibility</b>	10 Miles
<b>Precipitation and Obscuration:</b>			
<b>Departure Point:</b>	Terrell, TX (KTRL)	<b>Destination:</b>	Knox City, TX

## Wreckage and Impact Information

<b>Crew Injuries:</b>	1 None	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Passenger Injuries:</b>	N/A	<b>Aircraft Fire:</b>	None
<b>Ground Injuries:</b>	N/A	<b>Aircraft Explosion:</b>	None
<b>Latitude, Longitude:</b>	33.428889, -99.886389		

## Administrative Information

<b>Investigator In Charge (IIC):</b>	Alexander Lemishko	<b>Adopted Date:</b>	06/02/2004
<b>Investigation Docket:</b>	NTSB accident and incident dockets serve as permanent archival information for the NTSB's investigations. Dockets released prior to June 1, 2009 are publicly available from the NTSB's Record Management Division at <a href="mailto:pubinq@ntsb.gov">pubinq@ntsb.gov</a> , or at 800-877-6799. Dockets released after this date are available at <a href="http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/">http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/</a> .		

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