



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	Hampshire, IL	Accident Number:	CHI06CA252
Date & Time:	09/02/2006, 1600 CDT	Registration:	N12YA
Aircraft:	LET Blanik L-13	Injuries:	2 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

The glider sustained substantial damage when it ground looped and skidded to a stop while landing at a grass airstrip. The pilot reported that after releasing from the tow airplane at 3,000 feet above ground level (agl), no thermal lift was encountered so he returned to the airstrip for landing. He reported that he experienced a sink rate that "seemed very excessive" during the downwind leg. He "cut the pattern short" and turned onto the base leg, which resulted in the glider being high on the base leg. The pilot reported that he deployed the spoilers, but he was slow to retract the spoilers due to the "heavy force required to push the handle forward." The glider lost altitude. The pilot reported that the left wing caught the grass about the same time the glider touched down with the nose about 20 degrees off the runway heading.

Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The pilot's inadequate approach for landing and his failure to attain a proper descent rate.

Findings

Occurrence #1: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER
Phase of Operation: LANDING

Findings

1. (C) PLANNED APPROACH - INADEQUATE - PILOT IN COMMAND
2. (C) PROPER DESCENT RATE - NOT ATTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND
3. TERRAIN CONDITION - RUNWAY

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Airline Transport; Flight Instructor	Age:	74
Airplane Rating(s):	Multi-engine Land; Multi-engine Sea; Single-engine Land; Single-engine Sea	Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	Balloon; Glider; Gyroplane; Helicopter	Instructor Rating(s):	Airplane Multi-engine; Airplane Single-engine; Glider; Gyroplane; Instrument Airplane
Flight Time:	11342 hours (Total, all aircraft), 10 hours (Total, this make and model), 9 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 5 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Manufacturer:	LET	Registration:	N12YA
Model/Series:	Blanik L-13	Engines:	0
Operator:	Sky Soaring Inc.	Engine Manufacturer:	
Air Carrier Operating Certificate:	None	Engine Model/Series:	
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Observation Facility, Elevation:		Weather Information Source:	Pilot
Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Lowest Ceiling:	
Condition of Light:	Day	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	5 knots, Variable
Temperature:		Visibility:	
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	Hampshire, IL (55LL)	Destination:	

Airport Information

Airport:	Sky Soaring Airport (55LL)	Runway Surface Type:	Grass/turf
Runway Used:	27	Runway Surface Condition:	
Runway Length/Width:			

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Jim Silliman	Adopted Date:	12/28/2006
Note:	This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.		
Investigation Docket:	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 pubinq@ntsb.gov , or at 800-877-6799. Dockets released after this date are available at http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/ .		

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