



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	Delray, FL	Accident Number:	ANC07LA027
Date & Time:	04/01/2007, 1454 EDT	Registration:	N9174D
Aircraft:	Carris Avid Aircraft	Injuries:	2 Serious
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

The private pilot, with one passenger, was conducting a Title 14, CFR Part 91 personal flight in an experimental, homebuilt airplane. As a result of the accident, the pilot sustained serious injuries, and was unable to recall any details about the accident. According to rescue personnel that responded to the accident site, the pilot reported a loss of engine power during cruise flight, and the accident happened as he was attempting a forced landing in an open field. Witnesses reported seeing the accident airplane fly over the open field, followed by a series of descending, spiral turns over the intended landing site. As the airplane continued the series of turns, it abruptly nosed down, and struck the ground nose first. The airplane sustained substantial damage to the wings, fuselage, and empennage. An FAA airworthiness inspector inspected the airplane wreckage after its recovery. The inspector said that the right fuel tank contained about 4 gallons of fuel, and the left fuel tank was empty. He also reported that he did not discover any preaccident mechanical anomalies with the airplane or the engine.

Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The loss of engine power during cruise flight for an undetermined reason, and the pilot's failure to maintain adequate airspeed during an emergency descent, which resulted in an inadvertent stall and in-flight collision with terrain. A factor associated with the accident was the inadvertent stall.

Findings

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF ENGINE POWER
Phase of Operation: CRUISE

Findings

1. (C) REASON FOR OCCURRENCE UNDETERMINED

Occurrence #2: LOSS OF CONTROL - IN FLIGHT

Phase of Operation: DESCENT - EMERGENCY

Findings

- 2. (C) AIRSPEED(VS) - NOT MAINTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND
- 3. (F) STALL - INADVERTENT - PILOT IN COMMAND

Occurrence #3: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER
Phase of Operation: DESCENT - UNCONTROLLED

Findings

- 4. TERRAIN CONDITION - OPEN FIELD

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	61
Airplane Rating(s):	Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land; Single-engine Sea	Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Instructor Rating(s):	None
Flight Time:	1750 hours (Total, all aircraft), 50 hours (Total, this make and model), 1700 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 15 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 8 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Carris	Registration:	N9174D
Model/Series:	Avid Aircraft	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Operator:	Charles K. Scherer	Engine Manufacturer:	Rotax
Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None	Engine Model/Series:	582 UL
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	FD08	Weather Information Source:	Weather Observation Facility
Lowest Ceiling:		Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	13 knots / , 160°
Temperature:	28° C	Visibility	8 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	DELRAY BEACH, FL (3X1)	Destination:	DELRAY BEACH, FL (3X1)

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Serious	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	1 Serious	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Latitude, Longitude:	26.450000, -80.133333		

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Clinton O Johnson	Adopted Date:	07/25/2007
Investigation Docket:	NTSB accident and incident docket 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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