



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	Ocklawaha, FL	Accident Number:	GAA18CA517
Date & Time:	08/25/2018, 1500 EDT	Registration:	N7618S
Aircraft:	Champion 7GCBC	Injuries:	2 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

The pilot of the tailwheel-equipped airplane reported that, during landing, a wind gust from the right caused the airplane to weathervane. The airplane veered right off the runway, ground looped to the right, and the left wing and elevator impacted the ground.

The airplane sustained substantial damage to the left wing and left elevator.

The pilot added that he was a "very experienced pilot, but very inexperienced with tailwheel operations."

The pilot reported that there were no preaccident mechanical failures or malfunctions with the airplane that would have precluded normal operation.

Flight Events

Landing - Other weather encounter
Landing - Loss of control on ground
Landing - Runway excursion

Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be:

The pilot's failure to maintain directional control during landing.

Findings

Aircraft-Aircraft oper/perf/capability-Performance/control parameters-Directional control-Not attained/maintained - C
Personnel issues-Task performance-Use of equip/info-Aircraft control-Pilot - C
Personnel issues-Experience/knowledge-Experience/qualifications-Total experience w/ equipment-Pilot

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Airline Transport; Flight Instructor; Flight Engineer; Private	Age:	52
Airplane Rating(s):	Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land	Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Instructor Rating(s):	Airplane Multi-engine; Airplane Single-engine; Instrument Airplane
Flight Time:	(Estimated) 11300 hours (Total, all aircraft), 25 hours (Total, this make and model), 11000 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 110 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 30 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 4 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Champion	Registration:	N7618S
Model/Series:	7GCBC No Series	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Operator:	On file	Engine Manufacturer:	Lycoming
Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None	Engine Model/Series:	O-320-A2D
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:	KVVG, 89 ft msl	Weather Information Source:	Weather Observation Facility
Lowest Ceiling:	Broken / 4200 ft agl	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	11 knots / 20 knots, 60°
Temperature:	29° C	Visibility	10 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Ocklawaha, FL (FA38)	Destination:	Ocklawaha, FL (FA38)

Airport Information

Airport:	WOODS AND LAKES AIRPARK (FA38)	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt; Grass/turf
Runway Used:	03	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Length/Width:	2900 ft / 97 ft		

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Latitude, Longitude:	29.123889, -81.887500 (est)		

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Kathryn R Benhoff	Adopted Date:	03/18/2019
Note:	This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.		
Investigation Docket:	http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/search/dockList.cfm?mKey=98183		

The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB), established in 1967, is an independent federal agency mandated by Congress through the Independent Safety Board Act of 1974 to investigate transportation accidents, determine the probable causes of the accidents, issue safety recommendations, study transportation safety issues, and evaluate the safety effectiveness of government agencies involved in transportation. The NTSB makes public its actions and decisions through accident reports, safety studies, special investigation reports, safety recommendations, and statistical reviews.

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