

DHC-1 Chipmunk 22A, G-ARMF, 19 June 1996

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Aircraft Type and Registration: DHC-1 Chipmunk 22A, G-ARMF

No & Type of Engines: 1 De Havilland Gipsy Major 10Mk2 piston engine

Year of Manufacture: 1951

Date & Time (UTC): 19 June 1996 at 1055 hrs

Location: Top Farm, Croydon, Royston, Hertfordshire

Type of Flight: Private

Persons on Board: Crew - 1 Passengers - 1

Injuries: Crew - Nil Passengers - Nil

Nature of Damage: Damage to both wings, left tailplane, rear fuselage, left main landing gear and tail wheel

Commander's Licence: Airline Transport Pilot's Licence

Commander's Age: 73 years

Commander's Flying Experience: 13,344 hours (of which 751 were on type)

Last 90 days - 2 hours

Last 28 days - 1 hours

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

The aircraft was undertaking some local flying from Top Farm airstrip using the grass Runway 24, dimensions 900 x 24 metres. A circuit was flown with a touch and go landing, followed by a climb to 2,500 feet for a practice forced landing from overhead the airfield. The pilot kept the approach deliberately high, sideslipping off the excess height on final approach. The touchdown was made slightly to the right of the runway centre line and the aircraft commenced a swing to the right. The right wing contacted a crop of rape at the edge of the runway, causing the aircraft to ground loop into the crop. The semi-span of the Chipmunk is 5.23 metres.