



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	Ridgeland, South Carolina	Accident Number:	GAA19CA152
Date & Time:	February 25, 2019, 11:15 Local	Registration:	N10044
Aircraft:	Cessna 185	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:	Loss of control on ground	Injuries:	1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Public aircraft		

Analysis

The pilot of the tailwheel-equipped airplane reported that, during the landing roll, as the tailwheel touched down, the airplane veered right. The pilot attempted to correct with rudder to no avail. The airplane veered off the runway to the right and impacted a ditch.

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

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

The pilot reported that the wind was calm. The pilot landed the airplane on runway 21.

Probable Cause and Findings

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

The pilot's failure to maintain directional control during the landing roll, which resulted in a runway excursion and impact with a ditch.

Findings

Aircraft	Directional control - Not attained/maintained
Personnel issues	Aircraft control - Pilot
Environmental issues	Sloped/uneven terrain - Contributed to outcome

Factual Information

History of Flight

Landing-landing roll	Loss of control on ground (Defining event)
Landing-landing roll	Attempted remediation/recovery
Landing-landing roll	Runway excursion
Landing-landing roll	Collision with terr/obj (non-CFIT)

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial; Flight engineer; Flight instructor	Age:	76, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land; Multi-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	3-point
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	Airplane single-engine; Instrument airplane	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 2 With waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	December 4, 2018
Occupational Pilot:	Yes	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	August 14, 2018
Flight Time:	(Estimated) 4459.3 hours (Total, all aircraft), 1200 hours (Total, this make and model), 4334.7 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 3.5 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 0.5 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Cessna	Registration:	N10044
Model/Series:	185 A	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:	1962	Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	185-0419
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	4
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	August 19, 2018 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	3200 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	13382.8 Hrs as of last inspection	Engine Manufacturer:	Continental
ELT:	C91 installed, activated, did not aid in locating accident	Engine Model/Series:	IO-470-F29B
Registered Owner:		Rated Power:	260 Horsepower
Operator:		Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	KNBC,38 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	14 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	15:56 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	92°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	14 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	None / None
Wind Direction:	350°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	N/A / N/A
Altimeter Setting:	30.37 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	17°C / -6°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Walterboro, SC (RBW)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	Company VFR
Destination:	Ridgeland, SC (3J1)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	10:45 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class G

Airport Information

Airport:	RIDGELAND-CLAUDE DEAN 3J1	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	79 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	21	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	2692 ft / 70 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Full stop

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:		Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	1 None	Latitude, Longitude:	32.491111,-80.993614(est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Benhoff, Kathryn
Additional Participating Persons:	William K Thompson; FAA; West Columbia, SC
Original Publish Date:	November 6, 2019
Note:	This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.
Investigation Docket:	https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=99029

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.

The Independent Safety Board Act, as codified at 49 U.S.C. Section 1154(b), precludes the admission into evidence or use of any part of an NTSB report related to an incident or accident in a civil action for damages resulting from a matter mentioned in the report. A factual report that may be admissible under 49 U.S.C. § 1154(b) is available [here](#).