



# Aviation Investigation Final Report

<b>Location:</b>	WAUNAKEE, Wisconsin	<b>Accident Number:</b>	GAA18CA400
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	July 6, 2018, 16:00 Local	<b>Registration:</b>	N114JM
<b>Aircraft:</b>	Champion 8GCBC	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Defining Event:</b>	Miscellaneous/other	<b>Injuries:</b>	1 None
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

## Analysis

The pilot of the tailwheel-equipped airplane reported that, while landing at a private grass airstrip, he observed 4-ft-tall corn surrounding the airstrip. He added that, during landing, the aileron spades "nicked a few blades of corn" and that the corn was actually 8 to 10 ft tall. The pilot back taxied and decided to take off. During takeoff, the right wing struck a row of corn, which pulled the airplane into the corn. The left main landing gear collapsed, and the airplane ground looped to the left.

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

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

## 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 clearance from tall corn along the edge of the airstrip during takeoff.

## Findings

Personnel issues	Monitoring environment - Pilot
Environmental issues	(general) - Effect on operation

## Factual Information

### History of Flight

Takeoff	Miscellaneous/other (Defining event)
Takeoff	Collision with terr/obj (non-CFIT)
Takeoff	Landing gear collapse
Takeoff	Loss of control on ground

### Pilot Information

Certificate:	Airline transport; Commercial; Private	Age:	62, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land; Single-engine sea; Multi-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Front
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	5-point
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 3 Waiver time limited special	Last FAA Medical Exam:	October 23, 2017
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	August 26, 2017
Flight Time:	(Estimated) 6240 hours (Total, all aircraft), 131 hours (Total, this make and model), 5880 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 60 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 20 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

## Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

<b>Aircraft Make:</b>	Champion	<b>Registration:</b>	N114JM
<b>Model/Series:</b>	8GCBC No Series	<b>Aircraft Category:</b>	Airplane
<b>Year of Manufacture:</b>	2006	<b>Amateur Built:</b>	
<b>Airworthiness Certificate:</b>	Normal	<b>Serial Number:</b>	481-2006
<b>Landing Gear Type:</b>	Tailwheel	<b>Seats:</b>	2
<b>Date/Type of Last Inspection:</b>	July 3, 2018 Annual	<b>Certified Max Gross Wt.:</b>	2150 lbs
<b>Time Since Last Inspection:</b>		<b>Engines:</b>	1 Reciprocating
<b>Airframe Total Time:</b>	898 Hrs at time of accident	<b>Engine Manufacturer:</b>	Lycoming
<b>ELT:</b>	Installed, not activated	<b>Engine Model/Series:</b>	O-360-C1G
<b>Registered Owner:</b>		<b>Rated Power:</b>	180 Horsepower
<b>Operator:</b>	On file	<b>Operating Certificate(s) Held:</b>	None

## Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

<b>Conditions at Accident Site:</b>	Visual (VMC)	<b>Condition of Light:</b>	Day
<b>Observation Facility, Elevation:</b>	KRYV, 820 ft msl	<b>Distance from Accident Site:</b>	11 Nautical Miles
<b>Observation Time:</b>	21:15 Local	<b>Direction from Accident Site:</b>	269°
<b>Lowest Cloud Condition:</b>	Clear	<b>Visibility</b>	10 miles
<b>Lowest Ceiling:</b>	None	<b>Visibility (RVR):</b>	
<b>Wind Speed/Gusts:</b>	6 knots /	<b>Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:</b>	None / None
<b>Wind Direction:</b>	50°	<b>Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:</b>	N/A / N/A
<b>Altimeter Setting:</b>	30.4 inches Hg	<b>Temperature/Dew Point:</b>	24°C / 10°C
<b>Precipitation and Obscuration:</b>	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
<b>Departure Point:</b>	Waunakee, WI (6P3)	<b>Type of Flight Plan Filed:</b>	None
<b>Destination:</b>	Middleton, WI (C29)	<b>Type of Clearance:</b>	None
<b>Departure Time:</b>	13:55 Local	<b>Type of Airspace:</b>	Class G

## Airport Information

<b>Airport:</b>	Private PVT	<b>Runway Surface Type:</b>	Grass/turf
<b>Airport Elevation:</b>	950 ft msl	<b>Runway Surface Condition:</b>	Dry;Rough
<b>Runway Used:</b>	06	<b>IFR Approach:</b>	None
<b>Runway Length/Width:</b>	1800 ft / 40 ft	<b>VFR Approach/Landing:</b>	None

## Wreckage and Impact Information

<b>Crew Injuries:</b>	1 None	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Passenger Injuries:</b>		<b>Aircraft Fire:</b>	None
<b>Ground Injuries:</b>	N/A	<b>Aircraft Explosion:</b>	None
<b>Total Injuries:</b>	1 None	<b>Latitude, Longitude:</b>	43.169998,-88.470001(est)

## Administrative Information

<b>Investigator In Charge (IIC):</b>	Benhoff, Kathryn
<b>Additional Participating Persons:</b>	Justin Hetland; FAA; Milwaukee, WI
<b>Original Publish Date:</b>	March 18, 2019
<b>Note:</b>	This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.
<b>Investigation Docket:</b>	<a href="https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=97714">https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=97714</a>

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