



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location: Lajas, Puerto Rico Accident Number: ERA24LA063

Date & Time: December 10, 2023, 21:50 UTC Registration: N1707Q

Aircraft: Cessna 150L Aircraft Damage: Substantial

Defining Event: Collision with terr/obj (non-CFIT) **Injuries:** 2 None

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General aviation - Personal

Analysis

The pilot reported that during takeoff from the private airstrip, the right wing of the airplane impacted bushes alongside of the narrow turf runway. As a result of the impact, the airplane to yawed to the right. The pilot attempted to pull back on the yoke, but lost control and the airplane impacted the ground and nosed over. The pilot reported that there were no preaccident mechanic malfunctions or failures 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:

Thepilot's failure to maintain adequate clearance from bushes alongside the runway, which resulted in a loss of directional control during the takeoff.

Findings

Personnel issues Decision making/judgment - Pilot

Environmental issues Tree(s) - Awareness of condition

Factual Information

History of Flight

Takeoff	Collision with terr/obj (non-CFIT) (Defining event)
Takeoff	Loss of control in flight
Takeoff	Nose over/nose down

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial; Flight instructor	Age:	67,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land; Single-engine sea; Multi-engine land; Multi- engine sea	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	3-point
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	Airplane multi-engine; Airplane single-engine	Toxicology Performed:	
Medical Certification:	Class 2 With waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	July 20, 2023
Occupational Pilot:	Yes	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	October 28, 2022
Flight Time:	18312 hours (Total, all aircraft), 4300 hours (Total, this make and model), 18092 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 63 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 10 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Passenger Information

Certificate:		Age:	Male
Airplane Rating(s):		Seat Occupied:	Right
Other Aircraft Rating(s):		Restraint Used:	3-point
Instrument Rating(s):		Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):		Toxicology Performed:	
Medical Certification:		Last FAA Medical Exam:	
Occupational Pilot:	UNK	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:			

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Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Cessna	Registration:	N1707Q
150L	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
1971	Amateur Built:	
Utility	Serial Number:	15073007
Tricycle	Seats:	2
August 5, 2023 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1600 lbs
91 Hrs	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
19348.7 Hrs as of last inspection	Engine Manufacturer:	Continental
C126 installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	O-200-A
On file	Rated Power:	100 Horsepower
On file	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None
	150L 1971 Utility Tricycle August 5, 2023 Annual 91 Hrs 19348.7 Hrs as of last inspection C126 installed, not activated On file	150L Aircraft Category: 1971 Amateur Built: Utility Serial Number: Tricycle Seats: August 5, 2023 Annual Certified Max Gross Wt.: 91 Hrs Engines: 19348.7 Hrs as of last inspection C126 installed, not activated Engine Manufacturer: On file Rated Power: On file Operating Certificate(s)

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	TJPS,24 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	30 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	17:35 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	0°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	6 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	None / None
Wind Direction:	90°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	N/A / N/A
Altimeter Setting:	29.91 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	28°C / 22°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Lajas, PR	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Ponce, PR (TJPS)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:		Type of Airspace:	Class G

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Airport Information

Airport:	LAJAS AIRPARK PR25	Runway Surface Type:	Grass/turf
Airport Elevation:	30 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	17/35	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	2866 ft / 50 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	None

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
Total Injuries:	2 None	Latitude, Longitude:	18.010856,-67.069085(est)

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Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Enders, Ryan
Additional Participating Persons:	William Melendez; FAA/FSDO; San Juan, PR
Original Publish Date:	January 25, 2024
Last Revision Date:	
Investigation Class:	Class 4
Note:	The NTSB did not travel to the scene of this accident.
Investigation Docket:	https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=193511

The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) is an independent federal agency charged by Congress with investigating every civil aviation accident in the United States and significant events in other modes of transportation—railroad, transit, highway, marine, pipeline, and commercial space. We determine the probable causes of the accidents and events we investigate, and issue safety recommendations aimed at preventing future occurrences. In addition, we conduct transportation safety research studies and offer information and other assistance to family members and survivors for each accident or event we investigate. We also serve as the appellate authority for enforcement actions involving aviation and mariner certificates issued by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and US Coast Guard, and we adjudicate appeals of civil penalty actions taken by the FAA.

The NTSB does not assign fault or blame for an accident or incident; rather, as specified by NTSB regulation, "accident/incident investigations are fact-finding proceedings with no formal issues and no adverse parties ... and are not conducted for the purpose of determining the rights or liabilities of any person" (Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations section 831.4). Assignment of fault or legal liability is not relevant to the NTSB's statutory mission to improve transportation safety by investigating accidents and incidents and issuing safety recommendations. In addition, statutory language prohibits the admission into evidence or use of any part of an NTSB report related to an accident in a civil action for damages resulting from a matter mentioned in the report (Title 49 United States Code section 1154(b)). A factual report that may be admissible under 49 United States Code section 1154(b) is available here.

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