



MEMORANDUM for RECORD

Ralph E. Hicks
Senior Air Safety Investigator
NTSB Eastern Region Aviation

Date: August 15, 2020
Person Contacted: Matt McSwain, Pilot of N146BB
NTSB Accident Number: ERA20LA286, Clover, SC

The pilot provided the following written statement by email (in blue text):

I, Matt Mcswain, was flying N146BB from York, SC to Gastonia, NC on Saturday, August 15th at approximately 3:30 PM EST in a group 3 airplanes.

As we flew over the said grass runway, we decided to land, do a full stop, takeoff, and continue to KAKH. After approaching the south from the north and landing in the first 25% of the runway, I taxied to the south end of the runway and waited on the incoming traffic. When the Carbon Cub landed and taxied to the south end, he staged to the right of me at a 90 degree angle. I took the active runway, traveling north, realizing about halfway down the runway and past the point of no return, the plane was not creating as much lift as it normally does, and it was not climbing as it normally does. My focus turned toward the tall trees on the right, trying to avoid them. I had no visual line of sight with the first tree that I came into contact with. After initial contact, the plane dipped to the right and became uncontrollable. I never saw the second set of trees until I started crashing through them.

Matt Mcswain