



MEMORANDUM for RECORD

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

Date: August 18, 2020
Person Contacted: Karrie Bowden, FAA Operations Inspector, South Carolina
FSDO
NTSB Accident Number: ERA20LA286, Clover, SC

The following is a summary of the inspector statement provided by Ms. Bowden:

- The pilot was attempting a takeoff from a short (1.000 ft long) private grass strip.
- Pilot reported that he was not getting full power after liftoff.
- The airplane became airborne and could not clear trees located past the end of the runway.
- The airplane contacted the trees and the pilot lost control.
- Airplane came to rest within the wooded area.
- Substantial damage to the left and right wings, fuselage, and empennage. Landing gear remained attached.
- Found adequate fuel on board for the flight. The propeller was splintered from contact with trees. Engine continuity established. Linkage to engine controls established.
- Further examination of the engine revealed that the right, forward cylinder spark plug lead was separated from the plug. No evidence of impact damage in this area.





