

N35585 Damage on Take-Off

17 June 2021

At approximately 1800 hours during the take-off roll with a first-time student, the aircraft yawed left and was headed off the runway. Subsequently contacted a runway light and then struck the ground.

During the take-off roll, the student was on the controls being guided through a take-off with myself on the controls with him. Just after the aircraft reached 40 kias, the aircraft veered sharply to the left from what I believe was the student putting excessive pressure on the left rudder pedal. I was unable to overpower the pressure and could not keep the aircraft on the runway. I immediately announced and took full control of the airplane. At the angle the aircraft was headed off the runway towards the grass and a ditch I knew there was no way to stop and decided the best course was to get the aircraft aloft, so I ensured that the throttle was full and pulled the aircraft up off the ground. As the aircraft came up, the nose-wheel contacted a runway light and the aircraft rolled left enough for the left wing-tip to contact the ground. The aircraft settled to the ground in a side slip and the nose-gear collapsed with the prop striking the ground. As the aircraft slid to a stop the aircraft started to roll to the right and the right wingtip contacted the ground. The aircraft came to rest in a wing-level nose down attitude against the rising terrain of a ditch.

I checked the condition of the student pilot and then completed the shutdown of the fuel and electrical, and then we exited the aircraft. There was no fire or fuel spill except for a little leakage from the right fuel cap.

[REDACTED]
Richard A Suss

[REDACTED] CFI
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]



MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

Student Pilot Statement

Peter Wentz
Air Safety Investigator
Eastern Region Aviation

Date: 08/10/2021
Person Contacted: James Muchoki (Student Pilot)
Contact # [REDACTED]
NTSB Accident Number: ERA21LA314

Narrative:

The following is a summary of a conversation that occurred with the individual named above:

Mr. Muchoki stated he and the certified flight instructor (CFI) conducted a preflight inspection and engine run-up of the airplane and found no anomalies.

He stated that this was his first instructional flight and that during the take-off roll the airplane veered to the left. He stated, "the airplane became airborne for a second, then veered left and crashed". He then egressed the airplane through the left side door and stated that both he and CFI were not injured.

Mr. Muchoki also stated that there were no preimpact mechanical malfunctions or failures with the airplane that would have precluded normal operation.