



Ref: 7464

SOUTH AFRICAN CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY**ACCIDENT REPORT – EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Aircraft Registration	ZS-WXZ	Date of Accident	8 Feb 2002	Time of Accident	1100Z
Type of Aircraft	VOLKSPLANE VP11		Type of Operation	Private	
Pilot-in-command Licence Type	Private	Age	51	Licence Valid	Yes
Pilot-in-command Flying Experience	Total Flying Hours	323	Hours on Type	154	
Last point of departure	Wolmaransstad				
Next point of intended landing	Wolmaransstad				
Location of the accident site with reference to easily defined geographical points (GPS readings if possible)					

100m outside of airport perimeter

Meteorological Information	Fine				
Number of people on board	1+1	No. of people injured	0	No. of people killed	0

Synopsis

On 8 February 2002 at approximately 1100Z, the pilot took-off from Wolmaransstad aerodrome, with one passenger on board. Shortly after rotation the engine started losing power and the pilot carried out a forced landing in a cornfield.

The pilot was the holder of a valid licence, with the aircraft type endorsed onto his licence and a valid medical certificate.

The aircraft was registered on 11 June 1996, but no Authority to Fly was issued.

A Special Flight Permit, valid for a year, was issued on 14 June 2001.

Fine weather conditions prevailed at the time of the accident. There was a light northerly wind with 4/8 cloud cover with a base of 1000 ft.

Although the annual inspection on the aircraft was certified on 6 April 2001, the general condition of the aircraft was not in line with acceptable general aviation standards.

The approved person, who certified the annual inspection, did not use an approved checklist. The checklist used did not provide for checking for obstructions in the fuel tank. It was noted under paragraph 1.8.1 of the approved LS/1 checklist that the fuel tank should be checked for foreign matter during such inspection.

The aircraft was not fitted with any seats during the on-site investigation. The aircraft had sufficient fuel, but there was an obstruction, preventing fuel flow, from the fuel tank.

Probable Cause

The accident resulted from fuel starvation due to an obstruction in the fuel system.