

SUMMARY IN ENGLISH

The accident occurred at Skövde airport during landing and involved a sailplane of the model GROB G 103 C "TWIN III".

After a normal initial final approach, the pilot extended the airbrakes too much and maintained that setting, which meant that the sailplane descended too low. Furthermore, he lowered the nose to maintain airspeed. The pilot discovered that there were no margins left to pass over an obstacle consisting of small trees, which made him stressed. He then used the airbrakes in the wrong direction, which increased the sink rate.

The right wing hit the trees on short final, which caused a hard landing on the nose wheel followed by a sideways slid.

The pilot did not receive any injuries but there was substantial damage on the sailplane.

The conditions for the flight were good with clear skies and light winds.

The pilot has not been able to explain why he extended the air brakes too much and maintained this setting. He has also said that the handling of the air brake was not according to instructions he received during school flights.

The fact that the pilot felt stress when there were no altitude margins left may be the reason that the air brake lever was accidentally used in the wrong direction, which in turn caused the right wing to hit the trees. This in turn led to a disturbance in yaw that most likely caused the hard landing and sideways slid.

The cause of the accident was the way of use of the sailplane's air brakes during the approach.

Safety recommendations

None.