

Plane crashes near Hamilton

PHILLIPA YALDEN

Last updated 12:29 22/03/2015



CHRISTEL YARDLEY/Fairfax NZ

CROP DUSTED: A pilot was uninjured after crashing into a field near Hamilton this morning.

A pilot has escaped without major injury after his light plane clipped maize crops on landing.

The Coromandel pilot, aged in his mid 50s, was the only person onboard the Cessna when it crashed on landing in a field at Gordonton, near Hamilton about 10am on Sunday.

Fire fighters, police and ambulance were called to the rural property on Boyd Rd.

Sergeant Dale Smith said the plane was coming into land from the south when it's right wing clipped the crops, sending the plane bouncing into a spin.

"It was another 40 metres back in the centre of the strip, the wing clipped the maize causing it to do a 180 into the maize."

The plane came to a stop about half way down the airstrip with its nose in the crops.

"The left wing has some damage and there is minor damage to the other wing."

Smith said the man was an experienced pilot who had taken off from the airstrip on private property before. He was shaken but uninjured.

"It was a very routine landing, and not a rare circumstance from what I understand. He is good as gold."

The pilot was meeting the Waikato-based owner of the plane at the property before they were due to fly to another location.

The Civil Aviation Authority would be investigating.

Extracted from on 23/03/15 at 05:05:48

<http://www.stuff.co.nz/waikato-times/news/67471227/plane-crashes-near-hamilton>