

ACCIDENT

involving the glider registered D-6223

Event:	Hard landing at an unlisted site.
Identified cause:	Delayed decision to make emergency landing.

Consequences and damage:	Glider severely damaged.
Type of aircraft:	Glaser Dirks DG-200 glider.
Date and time:	Wednesday 8 March 2000 at 15 h 00.
Owner:	Private.
Place:	Verdaches (04), Labouret Pass.
Type of flight:	Circuit.
Persons on board:	Pilot.
Licenses and experience:	Pilot, 50, VV issued by Germany in June 1998, 900 flying hours on gliders.
Meteorological conditions:	Estimated at site: slight wind, CAVOK.

Circumstances

The pilot took off from Serre La Bâtie AD (05) for a flight bound for Seyne Les Alpes AD (04). In the Labouret Pass sector, the pilot found himself at an altitude too low to continue the flight to the destination AD. He decided to make a forced landing in a clearing about 150 m long by 40 wide. After a first impact in a place which was snow-covered, the glider slipped on the grassy earth for about 80 m, then came to rest. The right wing tip and the rudder were torn off and the fuselage was cracked around the wing roots.

The pilot stated that he had decided to land too late when he was no longer near an AD or a listed field.

