

Initial test flight

Apr 05, 2023 - 14:00



Flight Activity

Once around the field to test the take-off and landing capabilities and basic stability in the air and on the ground. Previous designs have suffered stability issues on the ground traveling in a straight line.

The undercarriage has been upgraded due to the weight of the aircraft, so it should be able to survive a heavy landing. We need to test this.

Participants

Pilot

Name	James, Martha
CAA Reg.	MAJ-167825-SFA
Phone	07911 123 432
Email	marthaj@example.com

Martha has been flying since 2005 when she saw an advert for a trainee position with a test pilot company and thought she would like to give that a go. She showed an exceptional aptitude for flying and quickly rose to a senior position where she started test flying prototype aircraft.

Aircraft

Name	Big White
Model	Super Drone
Manufacturer	Drones R Us
S/N	18725638076

The aircraft was initially designed for long range, high altitude, flying but battery life proved a limiting factor. This redesign is intended to improve on that by using lightweight solar cells fitted to the wings to augment to battery. While it is not practical to fully recharge the battery this way, flight times have been extended to up to 60% (depending on weather).

Location

Location	Walnut Farm
Weather	Clear day, dry and wind SW and light. There was rain the previous evening, so some small puddles were evident on arrival. By the time we were ready for the first flight, these had mostly dried.
Site	Site is clear of obstacles and no other pilots on site. The approach to the field has the inevitable pot-holes, some of which were quite deep and difficult to avoid. This should not be a problem provided the aircraft and it's component parts are secure in the vehicle.

Pre-Flight Checks

Checks Performed Yes

Issues Resolved No

Scratched paintwork

When the aircraft was unpacked, there was a slight scratch on the undercarriage. No damage was visible other than the missing paint. Must have been a problem in transit.

Issue was: resolved

Bent Wheel Strut

The rear wheel strut was bent very slightly. It's a minor defect that can be fixed with a small pair of pliers.

Issue was: resolved

Flight Details

Take off Apr 05, 2023 - 14:00

Landing Apr 05, 2023 - 14:10

Duration 10min

Flight Review

Flight was straight forward and without incident.

Flight Issues

Slight wobble on takeoff

As I was about to takeoff, the aircraft experiences a slight wobble. This was while still on the ground and as it attained takeoff speed. I came around for a landing and re-takeoff and did not experience the problem again. I am assuming it was as a result of the ground conditions rather than a problem with the aircraft itself.

Issue was: resolved

Flight Review

Takeoff and landing went well, slight wobble in flight, but that may have been caused by a cross wind. Need a second flight test with a longer duration to see if it happens again.

Notes

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