

1. Finland, especially our Competition area is actually flat area. There is no any special catalog for outlanding-fields. We will prepare information prior to competition concerning landable fields. Especially in vicinity/final glide areas.

Any field is landable. Hay-field/grass fields after first harvest which happens just before our Competition are the best.

All cornfields (here oats, barley and wheat are quite short at the time). Worst and sometimes expensive ones are the sugar beet fields.

But like mentioned, there will be info/coordinates for the fields when we see the area at the end of the spring.

2. No guidebook for ditching is ever made here.

Some notes:

- always land along the shoreline. Never against it!

Safe distance is 20-30 meters. Don't land inside the grass-zone because there you can't see the stones.

- always land the mainland-shore. Not to the island...

- always check the place before landing-circuit. Land to the village-side or road-side of the lake, rather than forest-side.

-make a normal landing with landing gear down. If you remember and you have time, close the airbrakes before the landing-glide in water stops. In spite of your landing-gear position modern glider will dive at the end.

Don't worry if landing was made with normal procedure it will pop-up again.

Typically the canopy will broke when it dives but glider floats. It floats well.

After recovering and starting to swim/wade to shore, close the canopy. It keeps all the stuff like parachute inside the plane. (First the chute-pack floats and then it sinks...)

-if the pilot can't swim properly and there is help coming nearby, stay over the cockpit or over the wing and wait for the helper coming close. Take all overalls and extra clothes off. They suck all the water and weigh like hell.

Then start swimming or wading.

Water temps at that time of summer are normally 17-22 degs.

One more thing: if you have to ditch to water your decision-making is absolutely too late!!!

In Finland we teach the pilots to fly closer to the cultivated from 500 meters AGL. Below 300 meters you of course still fly and search but you must know the field already where you go if you miss the lift. From 300-500 meters in our Comp.area you typically find a safe outlanding-field.

And if you can't fly and stay up above 200 meters you can't do it below 200m either.

I hope this relieves!

Your Juha