

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report  
198503542**

**Cessna 172N**

**22 November 1985**

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**NOTE: All air safety occurrences reported to the ATSB are categorised and recorded. For a detailed explanation on Category definitions please refer to the ATSB website at [www.atsb.gov.au](http://www.atsb.gov.au).**

**Occurrence Number:** 198503542 **Occurrence Type:** Accident

**Location:** Tebin Station 32km SSW of Quilpie QLD

**Date:** 22 November 1985 **Time:** 1029 [Aprx]

**Highest Injury Level:** Nil

**Injuries:**

|              | Fatal    | Serious  | Minor    | None     |
|--------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Crew         | 0        | 0        | 1        | 1        |
| Ground       | 0        | 0        | 0        | -        |
| Passenger    | 0        | 0        | 0        | 3        |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>0</b> | <b>0</b> | <b>0</b> | <b>4</b> |

**Aircraft Details:** Cessna 172N

**Registration:** VH-UWD

**Serial Number:**

**Operation Type:** Private

**Damage Level:** Substantial

**Departure Point:** Tebin Station QLD

**Departure Time:** 1029 [Aprx]

**Destination:** Quilpie QLD

**Approved for Release:** April 23rd 1986

**Circumstances:**

At about 200 feet agl after take-off, the engine began to vibrate and lose power. The pilot turned the aircraft to the right to position over more suitable terrain. The aircraft was stalled into small trees and bushes before touching down heavily on the nosewheel, which broke off. The aircraft then overturned and came to rest inverted. The power loss was caused by two engine exhaust valves sticking open. Although the valves were found to have been set at the minimum recommended clearance, a build up of combustion residue was present which probably restricted valve movement. Operations in high ambient temperatures involving slow flight and reduced engine cooling at rich mixtures can promote a combustion residue build up reducing valve guide clearance and resulting in valve sticking. The aircraft had been operating in the western Queensland summer conducting sheep survey operations.