

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report
198503541**

Beech 24R Sierra

21 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.

Occurrence Number: 198503541 **Occurrence Type:** Accident

Location: Morana Station 35 km North of Emerald QLD

Date: 21 November 1985 **Time:** 1510

Highest Injury Level: Nil

Injuries:

	Fatal	Serious	Minor	None
Crew	0	0	1	1
Ground	0	0	0	-
Passenger	0	0	0	3
Total	0	0	0	4

Aircraft Details: Beech 24R Sierra

Registration: VH-DJD

Serial Number:

Operation Type: Private

Damage Level: Substantial

Departure Point: Morana Station QLD

Departure Time: 1510

Destination: Emerald QLD

Approved for Release: April 24th 1986

Circumstances:

After having inspected a property, the pilot and his passengers returned to the aircraft to prepare for DEPARTURE. A storm was approaching the strip from the north and a 10 to 15 knot crosswind prevailed at the strip. A take-off into the east was commenced, the aircraft became airborne and as it crossed the upwind end of the strip, it was affected by a sudden gust of wind. The aircraft yawed to the right, lost altitude and struck the ground, before coming to rest in a ploughed paddock. At the time of the attempted take-off the location of the approaching storm was conducive to the presence of strong downdraughts or possibly microbursts in the vicinity of the strip. The pilot elected to commence the take-off because he was concerned that heavy rain at the strip would have rendered it unserviceable.