

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report
198602302**

Piper PA 38-112

11 January 1986

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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: 198602302
Location: Kempsey NSW
Date: 11 January 1986
Highest Injury Level: Nil
Injuries:

Occurrence Type: Accident

Time: 1720 aprx

	Fatal	Serious	Minor	None
Crew	0	0	2	2
Ground	0	0	0	-
Passenger	0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0	2

Aircraft Details: Piper PA 38-112

Registration: VH-FTI

Serial Number:

Operation Type: Aerial Work (Dual Training)

Damage Level: Substantial

Departure Point: Kempsey NSW

Departure Time: 1720 aprx

Destination: Kempsey NSW

Approved for Release: May 14th 1986

Circumstances:

The student was receiving training in crosswind take-offs and landings in 5 to 10 knot wind conditions. For the third take-off in the sequence a minimum ground roll technique was employed. The aircraft lifted off in a slightly nose-high attitude but did not appear to be climbing or accelerating. The instructor took control but was unable to improve the aircraft performance and the right wing and main gear collided with a fence. The gear leg was detached, and shortly afterwards the aircraft touched down in the paddock beyond the fence. The nose gear collapsed and the aircraft slid sideways to a halt. No defect could be found with the aircraft which may have contributed to the accident. Neither the instructor nor the student had noted the engine rpm or the indicated airspeed prior to, or at lift-off. It would appear that the airspeed at lift-off was lower than the recommended speed and that the nose high attitude subsequently maintained prevented acceleration to gain adequate flying speed. Prior to take-off the wind direction was seen to be varying and it is possible that a slight downwind component may have affected the performance of the aircraft.