

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report  
198701458**

**Sapphire Ultralight**

**26 July 1987**

Readers are advised that the Australian Transport Safety Bureau investigates for the sole purpose of enhancing transport safety. Consequently, Bureau reports are confined to matters of safety significance and may be misleading if used for any other purposes.

Investigations commenced on or before 30 June 2003, including the publication of reports as a result of those investigations, are authorised by the CEO of the Bureau in accordance with Part 2A of the Air Navigation Act 1920.

Investigations commenced after 1 July 2003, including the publication of reports as a result of those investigations, are authorised by the CEO of the Bureau in accordance with the Transport Safety Investigation Act 2003 (TSI Act). Reports released under the TSI Act are not admissible as evidence in any civil or criminal proceedings.

**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:** 198701458 **Occurrence Type:** Accident

**Location:** Redcourt (12 km W Bairnsdale) VIC

**Date:** 26 July 1987 **Time:** 1632

**Highest Injury Level:** Minor

**Injuries:**

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

**Aircraft Details:** Sapphire Ultralight

**Registration:** Not Registered

**Serial Number:** Not Known

**Operation Type:** Private (Sport Aviation)

**Damage Level:** Destroyed

**Departure Point:** Redcourt VIC

**Departure Time:** 1632

**Destination:** Redcourt VIC

**Approved for Release:** September 21st 1987

**Circumstances:**

After takeoff, the aircraft was observed to accelerate at a low height above the strip. At the upwind end, the pilot initiated a steep climb and a steep turn to the right, however the aircraft stalled at about 150 feet above the ground. The aircraft struck the ground heavily and slid into a ringlock fence. The pilot freed himself from the wreckage, and the engine which was still running at high speed, was shut down by a spectator. The pilot reported that after the ultralight stalled, he had the stick full back, but the aircraft would not recover. The aircraft stalled as a result of the steep climbing turn but recovery was not effected due to incorrect stall recovery technique.