

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report
198501397**

Champion 7-KCAB (Citabria)

31 March 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: 198501397

Occurrence Type: Accident

Location: 5 km NE of Apollo Bay VIC

Date: 31 March 1985

Time: 1240

Highest Injury Level: Nil

Injuries:

	Fatal	Serious	Minor	None
Crew	0	0	1	1
Ground	0	0	0	-
Passenger	0	0	0	1
Total	0	0	0	2

Aircraft Details: Champion 7-KCAB
(Citabria)

Registration: VH-DAY

Serial Number:

Operation Type: Travel

Damage Level: Substantial

Departure Point: Moorabbin VIC

Departure Time: 1128

Destination: Apollo Bay VIC

Approved for Release: January 22nd 1987

Circumstances:

The pilot decided to carry out a low fly past along the strip to check the effect of the prevailing strong wind. After having flown along about a third of the strip he landed the aircraft. During the landing roll the wind lifted the left wing and the aircraft began to move off to the right of the strip. The right wheel struck a low dirt mound and was twisted rearward. The aircraft then ran through a fence before coming to rest. The particular strip is an agricultural ALA, with a length of 490 metres and restricted to one-way operations. The pilot was familiar with the strip, having landed there on numerous occasions. The first part of the strip was protected from the wind, and on encountering virtually calm conditions, the pilot had made a spur of the moment decision to land. Shortly after touchdown the aircraft had left the protected area and was subject to a strong and gusty wind.