

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report
198403582**

**Schleicher ASW19B
Piper PA25-235**

24 December 1984

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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: 198403582
Location: 7 km E Waikerie SA
Date: 24 December 1984
Highest Injury Level: Nil
Injuries:

Occurrence Type: Accident
Time: 1900

	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:	Schleicher ASW19B	Piper PA25-235
Registration:	VH-GWL	VH-WGC
Serial Number:		
Operation Type:	Gliding	Aerotow retrieval
Damage Level:	Substantial	Minor
Departure Point:	7 km E Waikerie SA	8 km E Waikerie SA
Departure Time:	1900	
Destination:	Waikerie SA	

Approved for Release: 14th May, 1985

Circumstances:

Following an outlanding the pilot arranged an aerotow. The take-off was commenced into wind and up a rise. The glider became airborne but on breasting the rise, the tug pilot aborted the take-off as trees and a fence appeared closer than expected. The tug aircraft which had just become airborne turned left and the left wing tip struck the ground before the aircraft came to rest. The glider pilot released the tow but the glider's right wing tip contacted the ground then the fence before the glider impacted the ground beyond the fence. Before commencing the aerotow the pilot of the tug aircraft had estimated that sufficient distance was available for the take-off to be completed. He did not measure the distance available nor consult the aircraft performance chart. The chart indicated that with the prevailing conditions, insufficient distance was available to successfully complete the take-off.