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Aviation Safety Investigation Report 198602637

Piper PA38-112

9 February 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: 198602637 Occurrence Type: Accident

Location: Baroco, Moreton Island QLD

Date: 9 February 1986 **Time:** N/A

Highest Injury Level: Minor

Injuries:

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

Aircraft Details: Piper PA38-112

Registration: VH-FTE

Serial Number:

Operation Type: Private-Travel **Damage Level:** Substantial **Departure Point:** Baroco QLD

Departure Time: N/A

Destination: Archerfield QLD

Approved for Release: May 13th 1987

Circumstances:

The takeoff was attempted on a grassed sandy strip. The pilot reported that the aircraft seemed to accelerate slower than normal. At 50 knots he lowered half flap, and as the indicated airspeed approached 60 knots he realised that insufficient runway length remained to effect the takeoff. The pilot pulled back on the control column but the aircraft did not rotate. He then closed the throttle but was unable to stop the aircraft in the remaining runway. The aircraft overran the runway and overturned. No fault was found with the aircraft that may have contributed to the occurrence. It is probable that the soft, sparsely covered, sandy strip surface contributed to the reported poor acceleration. The pilot's delay in abandoning the takeoff attempt resulted in there being insufficient strip remaining in which to stop the aircraft.