

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report
198300074**

Hiller UH-12E

7 December 1983

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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: 198300074

Location: Yatton Property, 120 km North of Blackwater QLD

Date: 7 December 1983

Highest Injury Level: Nil

Injuries:

Occurrence Type: Accident

Time: 1125

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

Aircraft Details: Hiller UH-12E

Registration: VH-FBF

Serial Number:

Operation Type: Cattle Mustering

Damage Level: Substantial

Departure Point: Yatton QLD

Departure Time: 1125

Destination: Yatton QLD

Approved for Release: 13th August, 1984

Circumstances:

While cruising at 150 feet agl and 40 knots the engine failed. During the subsequent attempted autorotational landing the pilot tried to turn the helicopter into wind but a heavy landing resulted while the helicopter was still drifting to the right. The landing skid attachments collapsed and the main rotor and tail rotor struck the ground as the helicopter bounced and tilted to the right. The engine failed due to fuel exhaustion. A wasp nest had blocked the fuel vent line and the fuel gauge was reading in error because the fuel cell had partially collapsed.