

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report
198503503**

Hiller UH-12E

13 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: 198503503

Location: 146 km NE of Charleville QLD

Date: 13 March 1985

Highest Injury Level: Nil

Injuries:

Occurrence Type: Accident

Time:

	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-FFT

Serial Number:

Operation Type: Agricultural Ferry

Damage Level: Substantial

Departure Point: 146 km NE of Charleville

Departure Time: 0

Destination: Boxland Station QLD (120 km NW of Roma QLD)

Approved for Release: 15th May, 1985

Circumstances:

The pilot had landed the helicopter in a clearing in order to refuel from drums carried in the aircraft. During the subsequent take-off into the strong wind prevailing, downdraft was experienced as the aircraft approached a heavily timbered area. A turn was carried out to avoid the trees but the combined effects of the downdraft and the downwind turn resulted in the helicopter touching down heavily. The impact forced the landing skids rearwards, bending the associated vertical support members.