

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report
198402354**

Fletcher FU24

14 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: 198402354

Location: 20km NE of Scottsdale TAS

Date: 14 December 1984

Highest Injury Level: Nil

Injuries:

Occurrence Type: Accident

Time: 1015

	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: Fletcher FU24

Registration: VH-MXD

Serial Number:

Operation Type: Super-phosphate spreading

Damage Level: Substantial

Departure Point: Trig Hill Strip TAS

Departure Time: 1015

Destination: Trig Hill Strip TAS

Approved for Release: 7th March, 1985

Circumstances:

While enroute to the treatment area the pilot noted a loss of engine power. After the load of superphosphate was dumped, he realised he would be unable to return to the DEPARTURE strip and selected a track as the most suitable landing area. During the landing roll the aircraft ran over a hump which caused it to slew off the track into the surrounding bush. Engine examination revealed that the fuel injector system was out of adjustment, producing a lean mixture at high power settings. The resulting high combustion temperatures produced abnormal engine wear and led to spark plug failure.