Aviation Safety Investigation Report 198703458

Hiller UH-12E

23 January 1987

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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: 198703458 Occurrence Type: Accident

Location: 8 km East of Ayr QLD

Date: 23 January 1987 **Time:** N/K

Highest Injury Level: Nil

Injuries:

	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-HJW

Serial Number:

Operation Type: Aerial Work (Agricultural)

Damage Level: Substantial

Departure Point: 8 km East of Ayr QLD

Departure Time: N/K

Destination: 8 km East of Ayr QLD

Approved for Release: February 23 1988

Circumstances:

The pilot reported that a power loss occurred as the aircraft climbed through an altitude of about 35 feet. The subsequent forced landing was made onto newly cultivated ground, the skids dug in, and all four skid legs were bent. On exiting the aircraft, the pilot noted a strong smell of what he considered to be burnt clutch linings. An inspection of the aircraft revealed a worn clutch. Although the clutch was still within serviceability limits, it is considered possible that some slippage occurred which resulted in the loss of power to the rotor system. This accident was not the subject of an on-site investigation.