

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report
198803440**

Cessna 150-M

15 March 1988

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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: 198803440
Location: 20 km NW of Ingham QLD
Date: 15 March 1988
Highest Injury Level: Nil
Injuries:

Occurrence Type: Accident
Time: 1510

	Fatal	Serious	Minor	None
Crew	0	0	2	2
Ground	0	0	0	-
Passenger	0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0	2

Aircraft Details: Cessna 150-M
Registration: VH-WWN
Serial Number: 15077520
Operation Type: Aerial Work (Dual Instruction)
Damage Level: Substantial
Departure Point: Ingham QLD
Departure Time: 1410
Destination: Ingham QLD

Approved for Release: 15 August 1988

Circumstances:

In the pre-take-off briefing the instructor advised the student that during the flight they would conduct an inspection of the power lines crossing the Herbert River. The student subsequently flew the aircraft, in accordance with the instructor's directions, at about 100 feet above the river. The instructor was aware of four power line crossings. After passing the first, and when en-route to the second, the pilots heard a scraping sound and the aircraft slowed. Despite the attempts of the pilots the aircraft nosed down and subsequently struck the surface of the water at a shallow angle. Investigation revealed that the aircraft had collided with a power line, the presence of which was unknown to the instructor and had not been seen by either pilot. One of the supporting poles was obscured by trees, while the other pole was located approximately 350 metres across the river in a sugar cane plantations. All the wires were estimated to be 100 feet above water level.