

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report
198602656**

Cessna 172 F

4 July 1986

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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: 198602656 **Occurrence Type:** Accident
Location: Yaralla Station QLD, 80 km NW Goodooga NSW
Date: 4 July 1986 **Time:** 1115(Aprx)
Highest Injury Level: Fatal
Injuries:

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

Aircraft Details: Cessna 172 F
Registration: VH-DNU
Serial Number:
Operation Type: Aerial Work-Dual
Instruction
Damage Level: Destroyed
Departure Point: Yaralla Station QLD
Departure Time: 1115(Aprx)
Destination: Yaralla Station QLD

Approved for Release: March 18th 1987

Circumstances:

The pilot in command was continuing a mustering endorsement which had been commenced the previous day. After flying for about 85 minutes the pilots stopped for a break of some 30 minutes. About 75 minutes after flying had recommenced a person on the ground heard a thump, and the wreckage of the aircraft was discovered shortly afterwards. It had struck the ground in a steep nose down attitude while spinning or turning to the left, about 270 metres to the south of the 30 strip. Investigation revealed that, at some stage prior to the final impact with the ground, the undersurface of the left wing had contacted the ground, causing left aileron failure followed by a loss of controllability. Medical evidence indicated that the pilot may have suffered a partial or complete loss of consciousness due to a pre-existing heart condition. However, it could not be determined whether this was a factor in the accident.