

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report**  
**198602338**

**Cessna 150 M**

**11 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](http://www.atsb.gov.au).**

**Occurrence Number:** 198602338                      **Occurrence Type:** Accident  
**Location:** "Coomeratta" (125 km WSW Cobar) NSW  
**Date:** 11 July 1986                      **Time:** 0830 approx  
**Highest Injury Level:** Fatal  
**Injuries:**

	Fatal	Serious	Minor	None
Crew	1	0	0	0
Ground	0	0	0	-
Passenger	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

**Aircraft Details:** Cessna 150 M  
**Registration:** VH-DXR  
**Serial Number:**  
**Operation Type:** Private (Sheep Spotting)  
**Damage Level:** Destroyed  
**Departure Point:** "Coomeratta" NSW  
**Departure Time:** 0830 approx  
**Destination:** "Coomeratta" NSW

**Approved for Release:** May 4th 1987

**Circumstances:**

The pilot was conducting sheep spotting operations on behalf of a friend. These operations had been carried out during the previous day, and the pilot had also assisted with mustering after flying for the day had been completed. On the following morning, the pilot commenced further spotting at about 0830 hours, and the aircraft was last seen about one hour later. The wreckage was discovered at about 0945 hours. The aircraft had impacted the ground while in a steep nose-down attitude, probably after stalling at a low height above the ground. No fault or defect was subsequently found with the aircraft or its systems which might have contributed to the accident. Remains of a cake and an apple were found in the wreckage. Medical tests revealed that the pilot had been eating immediately prior to the accident, and had choked when food became caught in his throat. It was probable that this incapacitation resulted in the pilot losing control of the aircraft.