

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report
199000083**

Cessna 172P

24 April 1990

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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.

This accident was not formally investigated by the Bureau.

Occurrence Number: 199000083

Occurrence Type: Accident

Location: Estrelita WA

Date: 24 April 1990

Time: 1505

Highest Injury Level: Nil

Injuries:

	Fatal	Serious	Minor	None
Crew	0	0	1	1
Ground	0	0	0	-
Passenger	0	0	0	2
Total	0	0	0	3

Aircraft Details: Cessna 172P

Registration: VH-BOF

Serial Number: 17275469

Operation Type: Private

Damage Level: Substantial

Departure Point: Estrelita WA

Departure Time: N/A

Destination: Jandakot WA

Approved for Release: 31st July 1990

Circumstances:

With the wind from the right rear quarter at seven knots and 15 degrees of flap selected the pilot attempted a downhill takeoff from a one-way 390 metre grass strip. The aircraft was about 100kg below maximum all up weight with the right fuel tank full and the left tank half full. The pilot reported that he flew the aircraft clear of the ground at an indicated airspeed of 50 knots after approximately two thirds of the strip length. Shortly after becoming airborne the stall warning sounded and the aircraft yawed violently left. The aircraft collided with a fence before coming to a rest about 200 metres from the departure end of the strip. The pilot indicated that the aircraft became airborne at too low an airspeed and that this coupled with the fuel imbalance and the tail wind resulted in a loss of control.