

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report
198503547**

Cessna 182P

19 December 1985

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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: 198503547 **Occurrence Type:** Accident

Location: 2km East of Miles QLD

Date: 19 December 1985

Time: N/A

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: Cessna 182P

Registration: VH-TSA

Serial Number:

Operation Type: Private - Practice

Damage Level: Substantial

Departure Point: 2km East of Miles QLD

Departure Time: N/A

Destination: 2km East of Miles QLD

Approved for Release: March 19th 1986

Circumstances:

As the aircraft was being taxied for take-off, the nosewheel struck a small termite mound. The nosegear was broken off and the aircraft came to rest on the lower engine cowl. The strip was normally slashed every two weeks, a process which cut the grass and removed termite mounds. Because of recent dry weather which had inhibited grass growth, slashing had not been done for 4-5 weeks, and small termite mounds had built up. Several of these mounds were not noticed during the pre-flight strip inspection. The low colour contrast between the mounds and the strip surface, and the sun angle at the time, made the mounds difficult to see.