Aviation Safety Investigation Report 198601405

Cessna 152

01 February 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: 198601405 Occurrence Type: Accident

Location: French Island VIC

Date: 01 February 1986 **Time:** 1545

Highest Injury Level: Nil

Injuries:

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

Aircraft Details: Cessna 152 **Registration:** VH-TYA

Serial Number:

Operation Type: Private (Pleasure)

Damage Level: Substantial **Departure Point:** Tyabb VIC **Departure Time:** 1445

Destination: Tyabb VIC

Approved for Release: June 11th 1986

Circumstances:

The pilot was carrying out various manoeuvres in the training area. After about an hour general flying, the pilot decided to conduct a practice forced landing approach to a disused strip on the island. At about 200 feet on final approach, the pilot moved the carburettor heat control to the cold position and applied full power to overshoot. The engine failed to respond normally, and produced only about 1500 rpm. The pilot exercised the throttle control without obtaining any further power increase, and he was then committed to a forced landing. Touchdown occurred in a cleared paddock and damage to the nose gear and propeller was sustained when the aircraft ran through a ditch. No fault was subsequently found with the engine or its associated systems. Reference to the appropriate chart indicated that atmospheric conditions were conducive to the formation of moderate to severe carburettor icing. Although carburettor heat was selected at the start of the forced landing practice, it was likely that some icing had already formed and was not dispersed by the time the throttle was re-opened. When the engine failed to deliver full power, the pilot had not re-applied carburettor heat in an effort to restore normal engine operation.