

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report
199002019**

Air Tractor AT301

1 November 1990

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Investigations commenced on or before 30 June 2003, including the publication of reports as a result of those investigations, are authorised by the CEO of the Bureau in accordance with Part 2A of the Air Navigation Act 1920.

Investigations commenced after 1 July 2003, including the publication of reports as a result of those investigations, are authorised by the CEO of the Bureau in accordance with the Transport Safety Investigation Act 2003 (TSI Act). Reports released under the TSI Act are not admissible as evidence in any civil or criminal proceedings.

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: 199002019 **Occurrence Type:** Accident
Location: 10 km NE Griffith NSW
Date: 1 November 1990 **Time:** 800
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: Air Tractor AT301
Registration: VH-FEI
Serial Number: 301-0574
Operation Type: Aerial Work
Damage Level: Substantial
Departure Point: Griffith NSW
Departure Time: 700
Destination: Griffith NSW

Approved for Release: 23rd July 1991

Circumstances:

The pilot had been spraying rice fields when the aircraft began to vibrate severely and lose height. He began a turn into wind to position the aircraft for a forced landing in a dry paddock, adjacent to the field under treatment. During the turn the aircraft struck a small earth bank which tore off the main landing gear. The reason for the vibration has not yet been established. However, a piston failure is suspected as pieces of piston and piston ring material were found in the engine sump.