

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report
198502565**

Piper PA 36-375

18 November 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: 198502565 **Occurrence Type:** Accident
Location: Benerembah, 26 km SW Griffith NSW
Date: 18 November 1985 **Time:** 1145
Highest Injury Level: Minor
Injuries:

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

Aircraft Details: Piper PA 36-375
Registration: VH-JND
Serial Number:
Operation Type: Aerial Work (Agricultural Spraying)
Damage Level: Substantial
Departure Point: Griffith NSW
Departure Time: 1145
Destination: Griffith NSW

Approved for Release: 30th January, 1986

Circumstances:

The pilot was carrying out the first spraying run in the particular paddock. Towards the end of the run he was distracted when a large flock of birds suddenly flew up in front of the aircraft. The pilot descended in order to fly under the birds, but temporarily forgot that there was a power line in the vicinity. As he pulled up at the end of the run, the main gear snagged the wire. The wire cutters fitted to the gear did not sever the wire and the aircraft subsequently struck the ground 82 metres beyond the run of the power line.