

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report
198901554**

Piper PA25-235

27 September 1989

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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: 198901554
Location: 5 km S of Lillimur VIC
Date: 27 September 1989
Highest Injury Level: Nil
Injuries:

Occurrence Type: Accident
Time: 855

	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: Piper PA25-235
Registration: VH-PFF
Serial Number: 25-2093
Operation Type: Aerial Work
Damage Level: Destroyed
Departure Point: Kaniva VIC
Departure Time: 0835
Destination: Lillimur VIC

Approved for Release: 15th November 1989 EI Pressing Exit will do neither.

Circumstances:

Upon arriving in the area to be sprayed, the pilot carried out an airborne inspection and located the obstacles, including a powerline beside a road just outside the eastern boundary. Three wheat paddocks adjoining each other were to be sprayed. The first spray run was about one and a half kilometres long in an easterly direction. During the run the pilot concentrated on the drift of the herbicide spray and forgot about the power line. He saw the wires a split second before impact. The aircraft struck the north/south power line and severed one of three wires before crashing inverted into the ground about 80 metres beyond the road. Weather conditions at the time were fine and ideal for spraying. This accident was not the subject of a formal on scene investigation.

Significant Factors:

The following factor was considered relevant to the development of the accident

1. The pilot forgot about the presence of the power line.