

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report
198702425**

Piper PA25-235

18 September 1987

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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.

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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.

This accident was not subject to an on scene investigation.

Occurrence Number: 198702425 **Occurrence Type:** Accident
Location: 3 km NNW Brocklesby (60 km NW Albury) NSW
Date: 18 September 1987 **Time:** 1130
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: Piper PA25-235
Registration: VH-SGD
Serial Number: 25-4087
Operation Type: Aerial Work (Agricultural Spraying)
Damage Level: Substantial
Departure Point: Brocklesby NSW
Departure Time: 1115
Destination: Brocklesby NSW

Approved for Release: 23 February 1988

Circumstances:

The pilot was engaged in spraying a wheat crop. Two large trees, 18 metres apart, were situated in the centre of the paddock and the pilot intended to fly between the trees during one of the spray runs. He positioned the aircraft to fly under overhanging foliage and as close as possible to the tree on his right. As the aircraft passed the tree the right wing struck a dead branch. The pilot was able to maintain control of the aircraft and subsequently landed at the DEPARTURE strip. The pilot had failed to notice the dead branch protruding beneath the foliage of the tree.