

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report
199701676**

**Gippsland Aeronautic Pty Ltd
Fatboy**

26 May 1997

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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 Executive Director 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.

Occurrence Number: 199701676 **Occurrence Type:** Accident
Location: 9km SSE Lucindale
State: SA **Inv Category:** 4
Date: Monday 26 May 1997
Time: 1545 hours **Time Zone:** CST
Highest Injury Level: Serious
Injuries:

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

Aircraft Manufacturer: Gippsland Aeronautic Pty Ltd
Aircraft Model: GA-200
Aircraft Registration: VH-SAV **Serial Number:** 2009519
Type of Operation: Commercial Aerial Agriculture - Other
Damage to Aircraft: Substantial
Departure Point: Lucindale SA
Departure Time: 1535 CST
Destination: Lucindale SA

Crew Details:

Role	Class of Licence	Hours on	
		Type	Hours Total
Pilot-In-Command	Commercial	40.0	3200

Approved for Release: Monday, October 20, 1997

The pilot was conducting his first commercial agricultural spraying operation and had been operating on the task for several hours in the afternoon. He was asked by the farmer who owned the property being sprayed, to avoid spraying in the dam on the paddock. Whilst the pilot was attempting to identify the dam, the aircraft's left wing clipped the top of a tree and the aircraft descended steeply into the ground. The pilot was able to escape from the wreckage, having sustain soft tissue damage, fractures to lower vertebra and both ankles dislocated.

