

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report
199702587**

**Cessna Aircraft Company
Agwagon**

14 August 1997

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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: 199702587 **Occurrence Type:** Accident
Location: 34km SW Ravensthorpe, (ALA)
State: WA **Inv Category:** 4
Date: Thursday 14 August 1997
Time: 0830 hours **Time Zone** WST
Highest Injury Level: None

Aircraft Manufacturer: Cessna Aircraft Company
Aircraft Model: A188B/A1
Aircraft Registration: VH-UWH **Serial Number:** 18802950
Type of Operation: Commercial Aerial Agriculture - Other
Damage to Aircraft: Substantial
Departure Point: 34 km SW Ravensthorpe WA
Departure Time: 0830 WST
Destination: 34 km SW Ravensthorpe WA

Crew Details:

| Role | Class of Licence | Hours on | |
|------------------|------------------|----------|-------------|
| | | Type | Hours Total |
| Pilot-In-Command | Commercial | 750.0 | 1600 |

Approved for Release: Tuesday, November 11, 1997

The pilot was attempting the first takeoff from a grass paddock on an agricultural operation. Take-off direction was towards the west with 700 m of ground roll available. The wind was variable, but mainly a gusting crosswind from the right at around 10 kt. The aircraft was below maximum weight with a full hopper load and about half fuel.

When it became evident that the aircraft would not lift off by the end of the available take-off area, the pilot rejected the takeoff and attempted to stop in the paddock remaining.

The aircraft veered to the left, collided with a fence and ground-looped before coming to a stop.

The pilot reported that engine operation was normal and he was unable to explain why the aircraft did not lift off in the distance available; which should have been adequate. He believed the changing wind strength and direction may have been a factor.

