

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report
199600938**

**Cessna Aircraft Company
Skyhawk**

23 March 1996

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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: 199600938 **Occurrence Type:** Accident
Location: Nulyic Station, 130km E Port Hedland, Aerodrome
State: WA **Inv Category:** 4
Date: Saturday 23 March 1996
Time: 0630 hours **Time Zone:** WST
Highest Injury Level: None

Aircraft Manufacturer: Cessna Aircraft Company
Aircraft Model: 172N
Aircraft Registration: VH-PMC **Serial Number:** 17269392
Type of Operation: Non-commercial Business
Damage to Aircraft: Substantial
Departure Point: Nulyie Station Home Strip WA
Departure Time: 0620 WST
Destination: Nulyie Station Strip WA

Crew Details:

Role	Class of Licence	Hours on Type	Hours Total
Pilot-In-Command	Private	300.0	350

Approved for Release: Monday, March 25, 1996

The pilot reported that a recent cyclone had blown a tree branch onto the strip. The branch was lying so that the top of one section was at least two metres above the ground. When he carried out a landing area inspection the pilot did not see the branch. He landed into the rising sun and did not sight the branch until it was too late to avoid it. The branch collided with the left wing leading edge about a third of a metre in from the tip.

