

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report
199603356**

**Cessna Aircraft Company
Agwagon**

14 October 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.

The Bureau did not conduct an on scene investigation of this occurrence. The information presented below was obtained from information supplied to the Bureau.

Occurrence Number: 199603356 **Occurrence Type:** Accident
Location: 56km W Yass
State: NSW **Inv Category:** 4
Date: Monday 14 October 1996
Time: 1630 hours **Time Zone** EST
Highest Injury Level: None

Aircraft Manufacturer: Cessna Aircraft Company
Aircraft Model: A188B/A1
Aircraft Registration: VH-ICA **Serial Number:** 18803391T
Type of Operation: Commercial Aerial Agriculture - Other
Damage to Aircraft: Destroyed
Departure Point: "Berremangra", via Yass, NSW
Departure Time: 1630 EST
Destination: "Berremangra", via Yass, NSW

Crew Details:

Role	Class of Licence	Hours on Type	Hours Total
Pilot-In-Command	Commercial	4000.0	15500

Approved for Release: Friday, November 22, 1996

The aircraft was engaged in aerial spraying operations. The weather at the time of the accident was reported as fine, with clear skies and calm wind conditions. Toward the end of a swathe run, involving a descent into a small valley followed by a climb over rising terrain, the pilot was required to manoeuvre the aircraft over a powerline.

The pilot reported that, as the aircraft approached the powerline, the engine experienced a partial loss of power and did not respond when full power was applied. He elected to fly beneath the powerline, in order to avoid it, but considered this action may have been taken too late as he was unable to arrest the aircraft's rate of descent in time to negotiate the rising terrain on the far side of the powerline. The contents of the hopper remained on board the aircraft during the accident sequence as the pilot did not have an opportunity to jettison the load. The aircraft impacted heavily onto rocky ground about 50 m beyond the powerline and was substantially damaged. The pilot escaped without injury.

As the Bureau did not conduct an on-site examination of this occurrence, the reason for the apparent loss of power could not be determined.

