

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report  
199501117**

**Amateur Built Aircraft  
KITFOX IV**

**14 April 1995**

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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](http://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:** 199501117      **Occurrence Type:** Accident  
**Location:** 9km S Mangalore  
**State:** VIC      **Inv Category:** 4  
**Date:** Friday 14 April 1995  
**Time:** 1220 hours      **Time Zone:** EST  
**Highest Injury Level:** None

**Aircraft Manufacturer:** Amateur Built Aircraft  
**Aircraft Model:** KITFOX IV  
**Aircraft Registration:** VH-MKF      **Serial Number:** HBS049  
**Type of Operation:** Non-commercial Pleasure/Travel  
**Damage to Aircraft:** Substantial  
**Departure Point:** Essendon VIC  
**Departure Time:** 1120 EST  
**Destination:** Mangalore VIC

**Crew Details:**

<b>Role</b>	<b>Class of Licence</b>	<b>Hours on Type</b>	<b>Hours Total</b>
Pilot-In-Command	Private	17.0	4875

**Approved for Release:** Tuesday, May 16, 1995

Approaching the Mangalore area the pilot commenced descent and had reached a height of about 1000 feet when the engine suddenly started to vibrate severely. When the throttle was closed the engine stopped completely. The pilot selected a nearby paddock and landed with a slight tailwind. During the ground roll the right wheel entered a rut, which dislodged the right main gear leg and caused the right wing and the propeller to contact the ground.

The reason for the engine vibration and failure has not been determined.

**Significant Factors**

The following factors were considered relevant to the development of the accident:

1. Engine power loss, reason undetermined.

2. Forced landing on unsuitable terrain.

