

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report  
199503035**

**Air Tractor Inc  
AT-301**

**12 September 1995**

Readers are advised that the Australian Transport Safety Bureau investigates for the sole purpose of enhancing transport safety. Consequently, Bureau reports are confined to matters of safety significance and may be misleading if used for any other purposes.

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](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:** 199503035                      **Occurrence Type:** Accident  
**Location:** 9km NW Cleve, Aerodrome  
**State:** SA                                              **Inv Category:** 4  
**Date:** Tuesday 12 September 1995  
**Time:** 1745 hours                      **Time Zone** CST  
**Highest Injury Level:** None

**Aircraft Manufacturer:** Air Tractor Inc  
**Aircraft Model:** AT-301  
**Aircraft Registration:** VH-JAI                      **Serial Number:** 301-0579  
**Type of Operation:** Commercial      Aerial Agriculture - Other  
**Damage to Aircraft:** Substantial  
**Departure Point:** Cleve SA  
**Departure Time:**  
**Destination:** Cleve SA

**Crew Details:**

<b>Role</b>	<b>Class of Licence</b>	<b>Hours on Type</b>	<b>Hours Total</b>
Pilot-In-Command	Commercial	500.0	3100

**Approved for Release:** Tuesday, February 20, 1996

The aircraft was engaged on agricultural operations in hilly country when it encountered a sink conditions.

Although the pilot applied full power and take-off flap, he was unable to prevent the aircraft from descending into trees tops on a ridgeline. The pilot dumped the load, but the aircraft continued to descend and impact the ground.

The pilot had not been aware of any sink indications during previous spray runs.