

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report
199400189**

**Robinson Helicopter Co
R22**

23 January 1994

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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.

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: 199400189 **Occurrence Type:** Accident
Location: 2km W Ayr
State: QLD **Inv Category:** 4
Date: Sunday 23 January 1994
Time: 0600 hours **Time Zone** EST
Highest Injury Level: Minor
Injuries:

	Fatal	Serious	Minor	None	Total
Crew	0	0	1	0	1
Ground	0	0	0	0	0
Passenger	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	1	0	1

Aircraft Manufacturer: Robinson Helicopter Co
Aircraft Model: R22
Aircraft Registration: VH-DAS **Serial Number:** 1850
Type of Operation: Commercial Aerial Agriculture - Other
Damage to Aircraft: Substantial
Departure Point: Ayr QLD
Departure Time: 0500 EST
Destination: Ayr QLD

Crew Details:

Role	Class of Licence	Hours on Type	Hours Total
Pilot-In-Command	Commercial	789.8	869

Approved for Release: Saturday, March 25, 1995

During a clean-up spray run flown parallel to powerlines, the pilot inadvertently allowed the helicopter to drift to the left into the lines. The main rotor struck the wires and during an attempt by the pilot to turn away, the tail rotor also struck the wires. The tail rotor/gearbox was severed, causing the helicopter to enter an uncontrolled spin to ground impact.

The clean-up run was from west to east, at an airspeed of about 40 kts. The wind was from the north-east at about 2 kts.