

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report  
199402329**

**Kawasaki Heavy Industries  
Kawasaki KH4**

**23 August 1994**

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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:** 199402329      **Occurrence Type:** Accident  
**Location:** 20km SW Bowen  
**State:** QLD      **Inv Category:** 4  
**Date:** Tuesday 23 August 1994  
**Time:** 1630 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
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>

**Aircraft Manufacturer:** Kawasaki Heavy Industries  
**Aircraft Model:** 47G3B-KH4  
**Aircraft Registration:** VH-HFZ      **Serial Number:** 2196  
**Type of Operation:** Commercial      Aerial Agriculture - Other  
**Damage to Aircraft:** Substantial  
**Departure Point:** Strip 18km S Bowen QLD  
**Departure Time:** 1600 EST  
**Destination:** Strip 18km S Bowen QLD

**Crew Details:**

<b>Role</b>	<b>Class of Licence</b>	<b>Hours on Type</b>	<b>Hours Total</b>
Pilot-In-Command	Commercial	400.0	3500

**Approved for Release:** Wednesday, May 31, 1995

Before spraying a field cultivated with tomatoes, the pilot made a ground inspection to note the position of powerlines and other obstacles. Not long before departing on the spraying job, he was asked to spray an additional block in the same vicinity.

He completed spraying the first paddock without incident and moved onto the next block where he conducted an aerial inspection for obstacles. He noted that the same powerline crossed this block as well as the previous cultivation. He did not notice that one of the three wires was hanging lower than the other two. During his last spray run, which co-incided with the centre of a span, the helicopter collided with the lower wire and plunged into the ground.

