

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report
199403879**

**Air Tractor Inc
AT-301**

23 December 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:	199403879	Occurrence Type:	Accident
Location:	25km SW Coonawarra		
State:	SA	Inv Category:	4
Date:	Friday 23 December 1994		
Time:	0830 hours	Time Zone	CSuT
Highest Injury Level:	None		

Aircraft Manufacturer:	Air Tractor Inc		
Aircraft Model:	AT-301		
Aircraft Registration:	VH-HKC	Serial Number:	301-0674
Type of Operation:	Commercial Aerial Agriculture/Baiting		
Damage to Aircraft:	Substantial		
Departure Point:	Coonawarra SA		
Departure Time:			
Destination:	Millicent SA		

Approved for Release: Friday, August 30, 1996

The aircraft was engaged in a crop spraying operation, and during a procedure turn to the right, with a light downwind component, the pilot allowed the aircraft's airspeed to deteriorate, resulting in a stall.

He was able to partially recover the aircraft close to ground level, but the landing gear wheels became entangled in the crop, causing the aircraft to descend further and contact the top of a drain bank.

Using full power the pilot attempted to fly away, but the aircraft was unable to clear a line of trees at the perimeter of the paddock which it flew into, and came to rest inverted on the ground below.