

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report
198501391**

Fletcher FU24/A4

25 February 1985

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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.

Occurrence Number: 198501391
Location: 25 Km South of St.Arnaud VIC
Date: 25 February 1985
Highest Injury Level: Nil
Injuries:

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

Aircraft Details: Fletcher FU24/A4
Registration: VH-EOF
Serial Number:
Operation Type: Agricultural spreading
Damage Level: Substantial
Departure Point: Stuart Mill VIC
Departure Time: 1557
Destination: Stuart Mill VIC

Approved for Release: 11th April, 1985

Circumstances:

Shortly after take-off during a spreading operation the engine suddenly lost power. The pilot dumped the load and operated the fuel boost pump, however after a short burst of power the engine failed completely. The pilot was committed to a downwind landing and towards the end of the landing roll the aircraft ran into a gully and collided with tree stumps. The engine had failed from fuel exhaustion. The pilot was not aware of the amount of fuel added to the tanks at the previous refuelling and he had subsequently relied on the fuel gauge readings to assess the remaining endurance.