

Ref: 7319

SOUTH AFRICAN CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY
ACCIDENT REPORT – EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Date of Accident	21-02-2001	Time of Accident	0515Z		
Aircraft Registration	ZS-LVP	Type of Aircraft	AYRES S2R-T15 (M/93/205E)		
Pilot-in-command Licence Type	Commercial		Licence Valid	Yes	
Pilot-in-command Flying Experience	Total Flying Hours	+6818.40	Total Hours on Type	+92.20	
Type of Operation	Agricultural Spraying detail				
Last point of departure	Nelspruit Aerodrome				
Next point of intended landing	Nelspruit Aerodrome				
Location of the accident site with reference to easily defined geographical points (plus GPS readings if possible)					
Sugar cane field on a farm near Barberton. The GPS reading was determined as S25°44' 488" E 031° 01' 486"					
Meteorological Information	The weather was fine and the wind calm to light.				
Number of people on board	1+1	No. of people injured	Nil	No. of people killed	1+1
Synopsis	<p>On 21-02-2001 at 0447 Z, the pilot accompanied by a passenger seated in the available passenger seat behind the cockpit, took off from Nelspruit Aerodrome for a crop spraying detail on a sugar cane field near Barberton.</p> <p>According to several farm labourers, the pilot performed the first spray run over the sugar cane field in an easterly direction. At the end of the spray run, he pulled the aircraft up in a steep, almost vertical climb attitude and executed a wing over manoeuvre in order to carry out the second spray run over the sugar cane. According to eyewitnesses the aircraft descended rapidly, while the aircraft wings were rocking slightly. The aircraft mushed into the sugar canes field in an almost level, vertical attitude.</p> <p>The aircraft wreckage was spotted in the dense sugar cane field by a search and rescue aircraft shortly after the accident was reported. The farm owner gained access to the wreckage by cutting down some of the ± 4 meter high sugar canes.</p> <p>Both occupants were fatally injured on impact.</p>				
Probable Cause					
The pilot attempted to recover after he executed a high pitch wing over manoeuvre with insufficient height available to recover.					