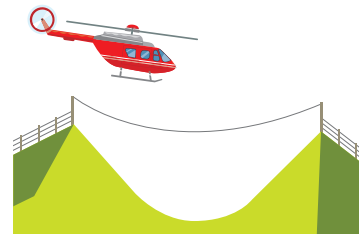




Wire strike

If you have a health and safety plan for your farm that identifies, manages and communicates risks like wire strike, then injuries and fatalities can be prevented.



KEY POINTS

Farmers

- > Remove aerial wires where possible.
- > Mark all wires that can't be removed on a hazard map for the pilot.

Pilots

- > Wires are thin and often nearly impossible to see until it's too late.
- > Your workload, vision limitations, and a small lapse in concentration can lead to a fatal mistake.
- > Ask farmers if there are any wires or poles above fence level or across gullies.

Overhead wires, aerials or cables are a significant threat to any aircraft flying at low level (under 500 ft). Helicopters are especially susceptible because of the work they do.

TYPES OF WIRE HAZARDS

- > Suspended overhead electric fence feeder wires that span across open spaces and valleys-from poles on the tops of ridge lines, or across the bottom of valleys.
- > Telephone lines, power lines or television/radio aerials and wires.
- > High tension power lines and wires.

HOW TO PREVENT WIRE STRIKE

- > Eliminate the overhead electric fence feeder wires risk by lowering them to fence level.
- > Eliminate unused telephone lines, power lines or television/radio aerials and wires.
- > Ensure you have a meeting with the pilot, either in person or by phone, prior to any work on the farm.
- > Work with the pilot to identify hazards and risks.
- > Note wires and other hazards on property maps.
- > Identify the location of wires and other hazards by taking a reconnaissance flight with the pilot.

For further information about wire strikes visit: www.caa.govt.nz/wires/

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