

Railway accident investigation report

Railway operator: Central Japan Railway Company
Accident type: Level crossing accident
Date and time: About 13:13, April 12, 2014
Location: Yuzawa level crossing, class four level crossing without automatic barrier machine nor road warning device, located at around 133,418m from the origin in Toyohashi station between Ina-Kamisato station and Moto-Zenkoji station, single track, Iida Line, Iida City, Nagano Prefecture.

SUMMARY

The train collided with a farming tractor passing the class four level crossing. The tractor driver died by the accident.

PROBABLE CAUSES

It is considered probable that the accident had occurred by the collision of the train and the tractor entered into and could not pass across the Yuzawa level crossing, where tractors are prohibited to enter.

It is considered somewhat likely that the tractor driver moved his tractor into the level crossing, without noticing that the train was approaching to the level crossing, because it might be effected that the tractor driver had concentrated his attention to driving the tractor while passing the level crossing, as the width of the level crossing road is narrow and he usually did not drive the tractor in the level crossing.

It is also considered somewhat likely that the reason because the tractor driver had moved his tractor into the level crossing where tractors are prohibited to enter, is that he usually passed the level crossing with the cart to transport farm products.