

# **CABI Digital Library Search Guide**

# Introduction

Welcome to Search Help for the CABI Digital Library (CDL).

In this help file you can find a detailed description on how to search [CABI Digital Library](#), in particular for our main databases [CAB Abstracts](#) and [Global Health](#).

This guide describes end-user searches, search queries, parameters, Boolean operators and wildcards to support more advanced searching.

CABI Digital Library uses the Literatum search engine from Atypion with some adaptations for CABI's database and full text content profile.

To export this help file as a PDF, click the menu next to any page title. From here you can export a specific page or all help information in one go.

## About Search Queries

- A search query consists of one or more search terms, along with zero or more parameters, such as Boolean operators, and wildcards.
- An automatic AND is assumed between words entered next to each other in a search query. For example, a search for *bird cat dog* returns the same search results as *bird AND cat AND dog*.



Export as PDF



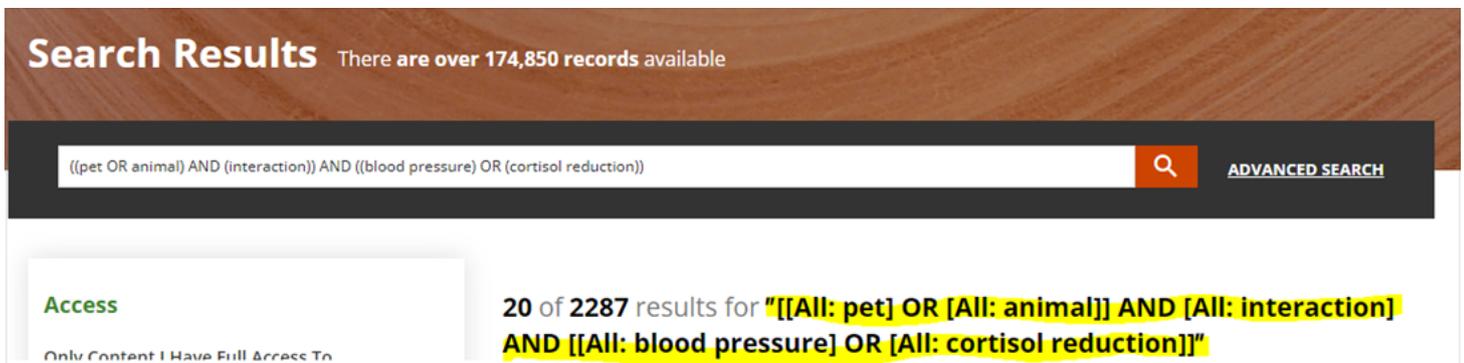
Copy link

Export as PDF

# Search

# About Search Queries

- ❑ A search query consists of one or more search terms, along with zero or more parameters, such as Boolean operators, and wildcards.
- ❑ An automatic AND is assumed between words entered next to each other in a search query. For example, a search for *bird cat dog* returns the same search results as *bird AND cat AND dog*.
- ❑ Query terms are not case sensitive, and punctuation marks, such as hyphens, commas, and semicolons, are ignored.
- ❑ Query length can be up to 2,000 characters but development work to accommodate much longer queries of up to 64,000 characters is underway and this feature is expected to be released on the CDL by the end of 2023.
- ❑ The search results query text rendered immediately above Search Results shows you how searches have been parsed.



The screenshot shows a search results page with a wooden background. At the top, it says "Search Results" followed by "There are over 174,850 records available". Below this is a search bar containing the query: "((pet OR animal) AND (interaction)) AND ((blood pressure) OR (cortisol reduction))". To the right of the search bar is a magnifying glass icon and the text "ADVANCED SEARCH". Below the search bar, there is a section titled "Access" with the text "Only Content I Have Full Access To". To the right of this section, it says "20 of 2287 results for "[[All: pet] OR [All: animal]] AND [All: interaction] AND [[All: blood pressure] OR [All: cortisol reduction]]".

Example of search query

# How to view search results

Searches performed from the homepage of the CABI Digital Library retrieve results across all CABI content hosted on the site, including both database abstracts as well as full text information.

**i** Please note that for databases only the bibliographic records are searched (also for records where CABI also hosts any corresponding article PDFs).

Results are grouped for display according to content type:

- "Abstract records" includes results for CABI's database products
- "Articles/Chapters" displays results for full text content published by CABI, including book chapters, journal articles (like CABI Reviews), CABI Compendium Datasheets, and Cases
- "Publications" displays results from whole book titles and whole CABI journals
- "News/Blogs/Events" displays the latest news, informative blog and an overview of relevant events

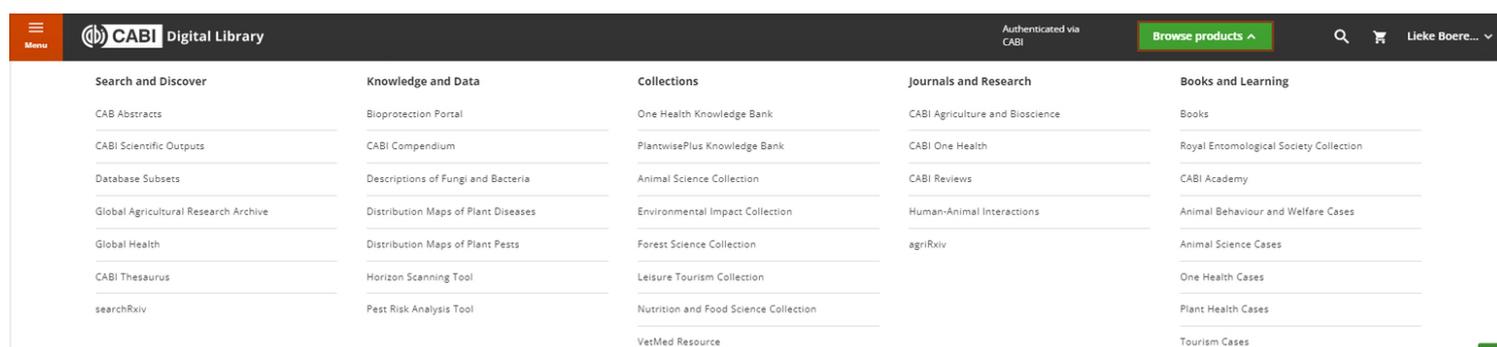
The screenshot shows the search results interface for the query "animal welfare". At the top, a search bar contains the text "animal welfare" and an "ADVANCED SEARCH" button. Below the search bar, the results are displayed for "20 of 2532 results for 'All: animal welfare'". The interface includes a sidebar with filters for "Access" (Only Content I Have Full Access To), "Limit To" (Grey Literature, Evidence Based Search), and "Publication Date" (a bar chart showing results from 1912 to 2022). The main results area shows a list of results, with the first result highlighted: "1. Guidance on risk assessment for animal welfare." The authors are listed as "European Food Safety Authority, Parma, Italy" and the publication is "EESA Journal, Vol.10, No.1, pp.2513". There are buttons for "EDIT SEARCH", "MY SEARCHES", "MY PROJECTS", "Save Search", "RSS", and "PDF/EPUB".

# How to search within a specific product

- ❑ [Via the product landing page \(through the 'Browse products' menu\)](#)
- ❑ [Using the 'Product' filter on the left-hand side in search results](#)
- ❑ [Using the 'CABI Product' field in Advanced Search](#)
- ❑ [Using the sc codes in Basic Search](#)

## Via the product landing page / 'Browse products' menu

It is possible to search only within a specified product by selecting the product from the top Browse Products navigation bar.



Browse Products navigation drop-down

If you start your search from the search bar on the product homepage, you will only search within that product. The product that you have searched within will be indicated in the 'Applied Filters' section on the left.

# Search Results

There are over 15,587,000 records available

beef cows



ADVANCED SEARCH

## Applied Filters



CAB Abstracts X



Clear all

## Access

Only CABI Content I Have Access To

## Publication Year

Last 5 Years

Last Year

This Year

## Author

Wettemann, R P

106

20 of 18757 results for "beef cows"

Save Search | RSS

Optimize your search query with the help of our [Thesaurus](#)

## Abstract records

EDIT SEARCH

MY SEARCHES

MY PROJECTS

per page: 20 50 100 | Sort by: Relevance

Select all

CABI Databases | Abstract record | English | 25 February 2023

### 1. Maternal behaviour of beef cows.

Authors: Miroslav Hristov

Publisher: [Research Institute of Mountain Stockbreeding and Agriculture](#), Troyan, Bulgaria

Journal Article : [Journal of Mountain Agriculture on the Balkans](#). 2022, Vol.25, No.6, pp.124-137 46 ref.

Preview Abstract

PDF/EPUB

FREE FULL TEXT

Product filter showing in the 'Applied Filters' section on the left

## Using the 'Product' filter on the left hand side in search results

It is also possible to limit search results and subsequent searches to a specific CABI database by using the left hand 'CABI Product' refine facet. When you select the desired product, the database filter then remains set for your next search, when using the search box immediately above search results to perform another search.

### Thesaurus Terms

- + Organism Groups 18048
- + Properties and Attributes 16519
- + Techniques, Methodologies and Equipment 15424
- + Miscellaneous 14761
- + Commodities and Products 11762

[More \(16\) ▾](#)

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### CABI Product

- ▣ Databases 21898
  - CAB Abstracts 18757
  - Animal Breeding Abstracts 9359
  - Nutrition Abs & Revs - Series B 6432
  - Index Veterinarius 5460
  - Veterinary Bulletin 5411
  - Dairy Science Abstracts 5335
  - World Agricultural Economics and Rural Sociology Abstracts (W.A.E.R.S.A.) 3074
  - CAB Abstracts Archive 3069

**Authors:** C. A. Lents, R. P. Wettemann, J. A. Vizcarra, M. L. Looper, M. J. Paape  
**Journal Article :** [Animal Science Research Report - Agricultural Experiment Station, Oklahoma State University](#) , No.P-958, pp.45-49

[Preview Abstract ▾](#)

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CABI Databases | Abstract record | English | 17 February 1984

**10. Bacterial flora of postpartum beef cows calving on pasture.**

**Authors:** K. N. Bretzlaff, R. S. Ott  
**Journal Article :** [Veterinary Medicine & Small Animal Clinician](#) 1983, Vol.78, No.11, pp.1765-1767 8

[Preview Abstract ▾](#)

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CABI Databases | Abstract record | English | 1 July 1995

**11. Meeting the energy requirements of beef cows.**

**Authors:** L. Corah  
**Journal Article :** [Veterinary Medicine](#) , Vol.90, No.2, pp.203-208, 210

[Preview Abstract ▾](#)

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CABI Databases | Abstract record | German | 17 April 1997

**12. Outside climate stalls for beef cows.**

**Original Title:** Aussenklimastall für mutterkühe.  
**Authors:** S. Fritzsche, J. Beck, G. Müller  
**Journal Article :** [Landtechnik](#) , Vol.51, No.1, pp.28

[Preview Abstract ▾](#)

Partial list of all products in the CABI Product section on the left

# Search Results

There are over 15,401,000 records available

heifer AND (calf production)



ADVANCED SEARCH

## Applied Filters

Databases X

CAB Abstracts X

## Access

Only Content I Have Access To

## Publication Title

CABI Databases

3706

## Author

20 of 3706 results for "[All: heifer] AND [All: calf production] AND [CABI Products: Databases] AND [CABI Products: CAB Abstracts]"

Save Search | RSS

Optimize your search query with the help of our [Thesaurus](#)

## Abstract records

EDIT SEARCH

MY SEARCHES

MY PROJECTS

per page: 20 50 100 | Sort by: Relevance

Select all

CABI Databases | Abstract record | German | 1 January 1981

### 1. Increasing calf production by breeding from fattening heifers.

Original Title: Die Erhöhung der Kalberproduktion durch Farsenvornutzung.

# Search Results

There are over 15,401,000 records available

milk cows



ADVANCED SEARCH

## Applied Filters

Databases X

CAB Abstracts X

## Access

Only Content I Have Access To

## Publication Title

CABI Databases

170669

## Author

20 of 170669 results for "[All: milk cows] AND [CABI Products: Databases] AND [CABI Products: CAB Abstracts]"

Save Search | RSS

Optimize your search query with the help of our [Thesaurus](#)

## Abstract records

EDIT SEARCH

MY SEARCHES

MY PROJECTS

per page: 20 50 100 | Sort by: Relevance

Select all

CABI Databases | Abstract record | 27 March 2013

### 1. Movement of radioactive caesium in milk cows.

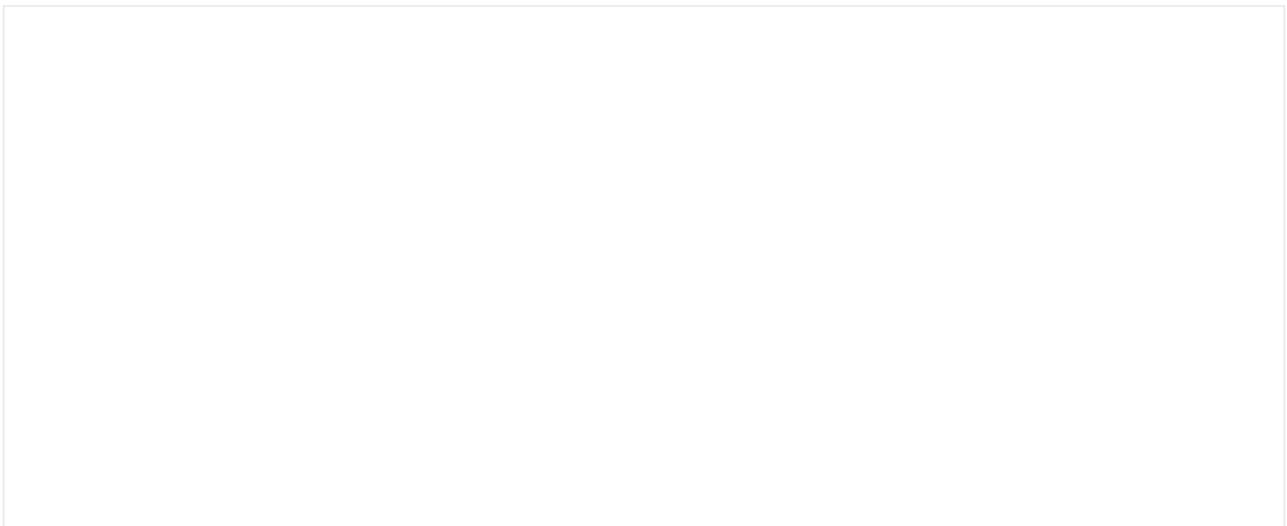
Authors: N. Manabe

Applied filters remain set for your next search

# Using the 'CABI Product' field in Advanced Search

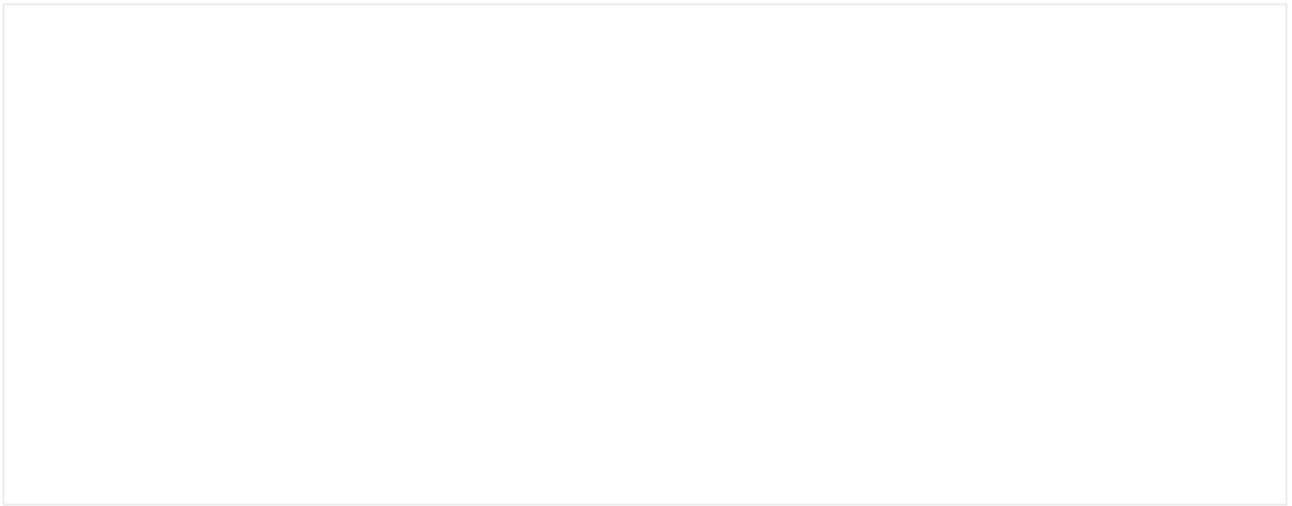
The 'CABI Product' field in Advanced Search can be used to build searches which work in one or across multiple CABI products simultaneously, whether these are databases or primary publications. The desired products need to be specified using the two-letter codes indicated in [these tables](#) and selecting CABI Product (sc code) from the dropdown menu. You may specify as many products as you wish by combining them with the Boolean operator OR.

As an example, to search simultaneously the term 'rabies' occurring in either CAB Abstracts (a database) or in Global Health (another database) you would enter the two product codes combined with the OR operator – *<ca OR he>* – selecting 'CABI Product (sc code)' from the dropdown menu, AND you would enter the term *<rabies>* in the subsequent box keeping 'All fields' in the dropdown menu on the right.



Advanced Search - Search option 1. Search for the term 'rabies' occurring simultaneously in either of two databases,  
CAB Abstracts (ca) or Global Health (he).

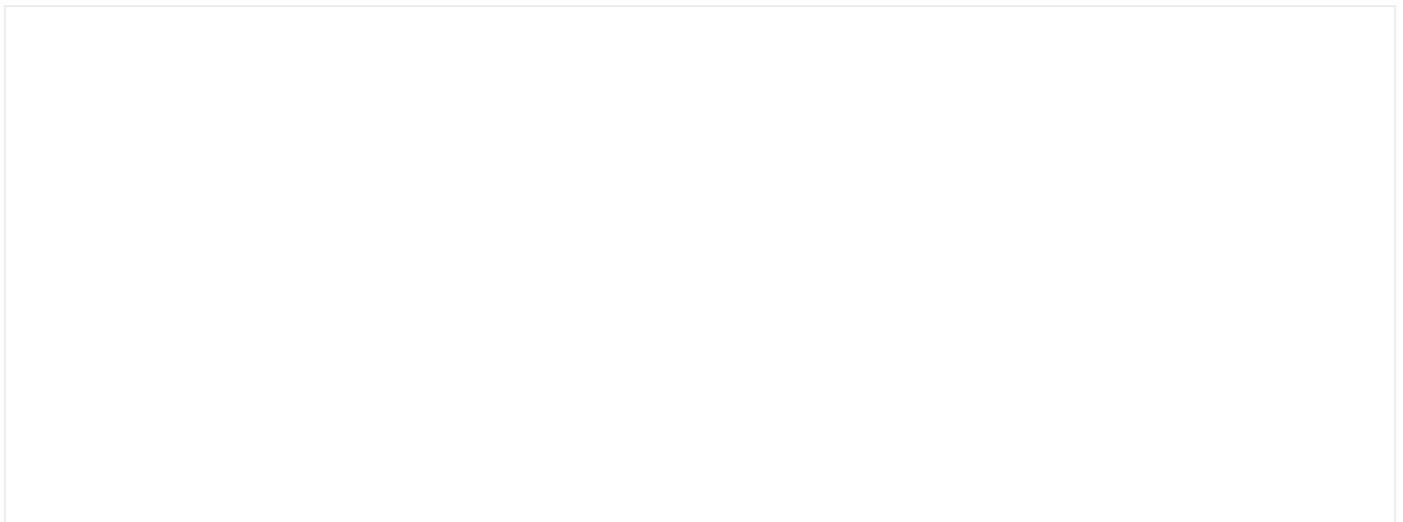
Alternatively, it is also possible to specify the product in the search box by entering the sequence code (sc) followed by a colon in front of the two-letter product code (full list retrievable in [these tables](#)). In this case, since the product is already specified in the search box, 'All fields' should be kept in the drop-down menu. For example, the above search is also reproducible this way in Advanced Search: enter the two product codes combined with the OR operator, each preceded by sc:, and put them within round brackets, keeping 'All fields' in the dropdown menu on the right. AND enter the term *<rabies>* in the subsequent box keeping 'All fields' in the dropdown menu on the right.



Advanced Search - Search option 2. Search for the term 'rabies' occurring simultaneously in either of two databases,  
CAB Abstracts (ca) or Global Health (he).

## Using the sc codes in Basic Search

You can perform the same search reported above in the Basic Search. To do so, you need to go to CABI Digital Library homepage and enter (sc:ca OR sc:he) AND rabies



Basic Search. Search for the term 'rabies' occurring simultaneously in either of two databases,  
CAB Abstracts (ca) or Global Health (he).

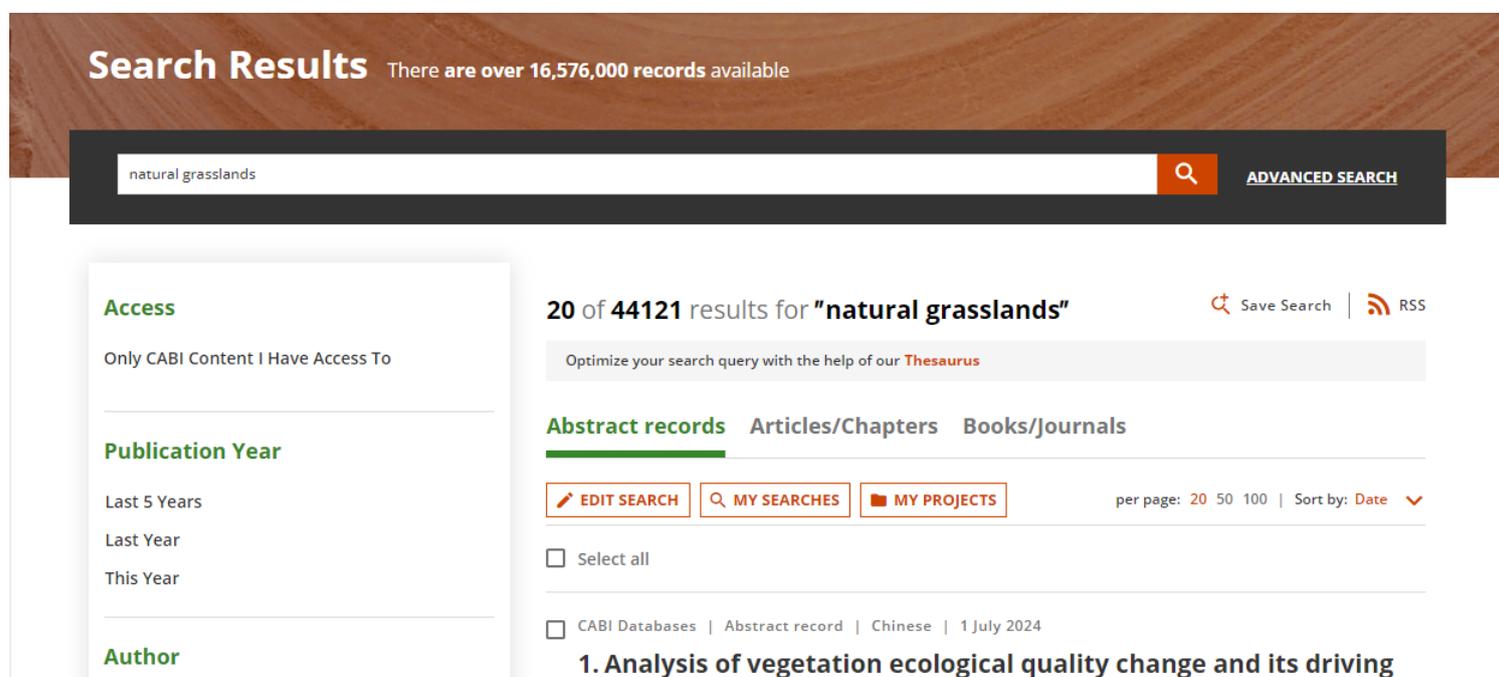
# Exporting results from CABI Digital Library

CABI Digital Library enables you to export up to 100,000 search results as a single operation in a variety of formats, including .ris, .csv, Text, bibText, and EndNote. You can also export only selected records at a time. Export of citations works this way:

To be able to export database records which appear under the 'Abstract records' tab - whether only those selected or all results in bulk (the 'All results' option) - you must be a registered user on the platform, logged in, and have a license to access the records.

You also need to be logged in and have a valid license to export the full text of any items listed under the 'Articles/Chapters' tab or the 'Books/Journals' tab in Search Results. However, it is possible to download just the bibliographic descriptions (as opposed to the full text) of any items listed under these two tabs, even if you don't have a license but are registered as a user on the platform.

If you're not logged in, you will be prompted to Login/Register in the course of the export process.



The screenshot shows the CABI Digital Library search results interface. At the top, a dark header bar contains the text "Search Results" and "There are over 16,576,000 records available". Below this is a search bar with the query "natural grasslands" and a search button. To the right of the search bar are links for "ADVANCED SEARCH", "Save Search", and "RSS".

The main content area displays "20 of 44121 results for 'natural grasslands'". Below this is a filter sidebar on the left with sections for "Access" (Only CABI Content I Have Access To), "Publication Year" (Last 5 Years, Last Year, This Year), and "Author".

The main results area shows tabs for "Abstract records", "Articles/Chapters", and "Books/Journals". Below the tabs are buttons for "EDIT SEARCH", "MY SEARCHES", and "MY PROJECTS". There are also options for "per page: 20 50 100" and "Sort by: Date".

The first result is titled "1. Analysis of vegetation ecological quality change and its driving" and includes a checkbox for "Select all" and a checkbox for "CABI Databases | Abstract record | Chinese | 1 July 2024".

Example of a Search Results page

To activate the 'Export Citations' feature, you need to click on desired record(s) in the search result page. It is possible to export just 'Selected' results from the current Search Results

page you are on or alternatively 'All results' for your search (i.e., up to 100,000 records) as a single export operation. Select the export output format from the drop down along with the citation format option.



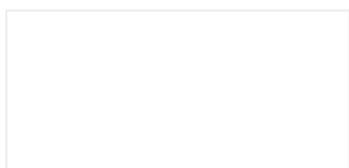
The Export Citation box provides a preview of the data format and fields which will be exported for each output option for the records you have selected to export.



When you are happy with your export settings, simply click the 'Download citation' arrow in the bottom right corner to export your results.

Once you have clicked the export arrow, you must keep the current browser tab open until your export completes. A notification about this will then appear in the Export Citation dialog box: "Your export is currently added to the export queue. Depending on the size of the queue this might take up to 2 hours. Please leave this page/tab open until the downloading process is complete. Do not refresh or navigate away from this page." As indicated, it may take a while for the export to complete based on the size of your individual export as well as other simultaneous export queue activity on the platform.

Depending on how your browser is set up, you may see a 'Downloads' notification appear as soon as your export completes.



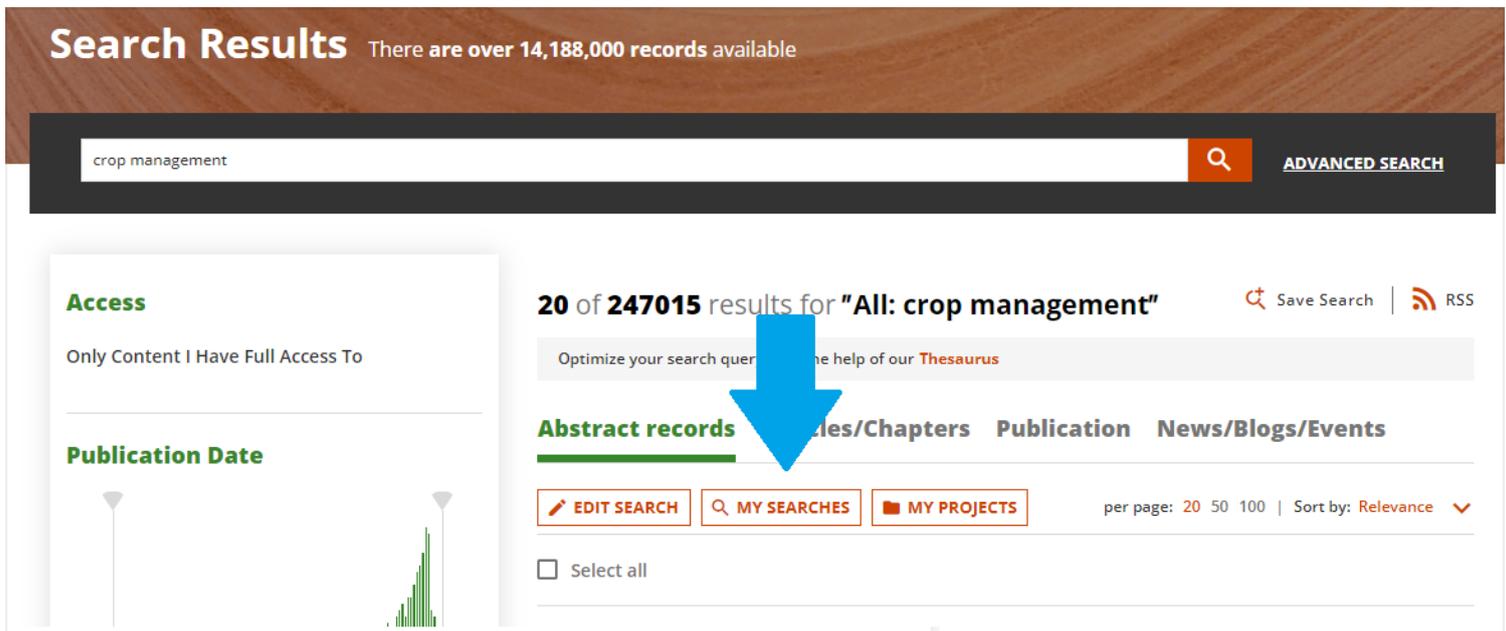


# Recent Searches (search history)

In the Recent Searches you can see the latest 10 searches per session. New searches will overwrite the oldest existing search. A session expires automatically after 30 minutes of inactivity (with a maximum session duration of 12 hours).

There are 2 ways to get to your Recent Searches:

- ▣ Via the [Advanced Search](#)
- ▣ Via 'My Searches' on the search results page



The screenshot shows a search results interface. At the top, a search bar contains the text 'crop management' and a magnifying glass icon. To the right of the search bar is a button labeled 'ADVANCED SEARCH'. Below the search bar, the page displays '20 of 247015 results for "All: crop management"'. A blue arrow points from the search results area down to the 'MY SEARCHES' button in the navigation bar. The navigation bar includes buttons for 'EDIT SEARCH', 'MY SEARCHES', and 'MY PROJECTS'. To the right of these buttons are options for 'per page: 20 50 100' and 'Sort by: Relevance'. On the left side of the page, there are sections for 'Access' and 'Publication Date' with corresponding filters and a bar chart.

Go to My Searches to see your recent searches

From there, you can go to 'Recent searches' (or [Saved Searches](#)). Here you can combine your searches as usual. Currently your last 10 searches are remembered, but we will be extending this to a much higher number. In Saved Searches you can already save 100 queries.

Recent searches

# Saved Searches

## Creating saved searches

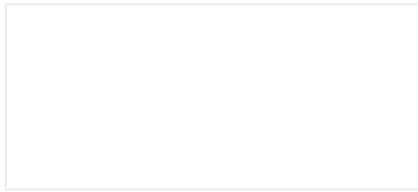
Once you are logged in to the CABI Digital Library creating search alerts is easy! To begin, type your search query into the search box at the top of the screen:



[Start a search](#)

We've used 'CABI Reviews' as an example but you can perform your search on a product page or the global search on the homepage. When searching more complex topics you can use Boolean operators such as 'AND' or 'NOT' to dig a little deeper. Now click on the Search button. Your results will be displayed on the search results page.

On the left side of the page you will see a variety of filtering options such as Publication Date, Keyword and Author. Once you have refined your results and are happy with your search you can go ahead and save it. On the top right you will see a little magnifying glass icon like this:



Save Search icon

Click on this and you will be presented with a pop-up box:



Save this search pop-up

Here you can give your search a name and select the frequency of alerts. Now click 'Save Search'.

Your search has now been saved.

## Viewing saved searches

In the Saved Searches you can save up to 100 searches. New searches you save after that will overwrite the oldest existing saved search. You can remove saved searches to free up space

for new saved searches by clicking the bin icon.

Have a look at this [user guide to create a saved search](#).

There are 3 ways to see your Saved Searches:

- ▣ Via the [Advanced Search](#)
- ▣ Via Saved Searches in [your Account](#)
- ▣ Via 'My Searches' on the search results page



My Searches in search results

Here you can find your saved searches.

[View Saved Searches](#)

# Boolean Operators

Boolean operators AND, OR, NOT can be applied to searches. Boolean operators must be capitalised, otherwise they are parsed as search terms not as Boolean operators. The symbols &&, ||, !! can also be used instead of the words AND, OR, NOT (please note the symbols must be preceded and followed by a space)

Boolean Operator	Application
AND (also && )	<p>Search for documents containing two or more terms. Each returned search result must contain all of the searched for terms.</p> <p>For example the following queries return search results containing both cat and dog.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>· cat AND dog</li><li>· cat &amp;&amp; dog</li></ul>
OR (also    )	<p>Search for documents containing at least one of two or more searched terms.</p> <p>For example the following queries return documents containing only the term cat, documents containing only the term dog, and documents containing both cat and dog.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>· cat OR dog</li><li>· cat    dog</li></ul>
NOT (also !! )	<p>Search for documents that do not contain a given term.</p> <p>For example the following queries return documents containing cat but not containing dog;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>· cat NOT dog</li><li>· cat !! dog</li></ul>

# Using Parentheses (or Curved Brackets)

Parentheses or Curved Brackets should be used to group search terms when combining three or more terms with different Boolean operators, to indicate the order of search. Terms enclosed within parentheses/brackets are processed together first by the search engine.

For example, the following query searches for documents containing *care* and also containing either *cat* or *dog*:

```
care AND (cat OR dog)
```

Without parentheses/brackets, the query *<care AND cat OR dog>* searches for documents containing *care* and *cat*, or containing *dog*, so would bring back many results about dogs unrelated to *care*.

Multiple sets of parentheses/brackets should be used in longer searches that combine multiple phrases together with Boolean operators, to designate clearly to the search engine how the search should be processed.

Searches within parentheses/brackets are performed first and parsing proceeds from left to right. Parentheses/brackets must be “balanced” around phrases so that both longer compound phrases and their shorter sub-components within are correctly enclosed in parentheses/brackets on either side.

In the search example below both variants give correct results because the phrase on the left contains balanced parentheses/brackets.

```
((pet OR animal) AND (interaction)) AND ((blood pressure) OR (cortisol reduction))
```

gives 2287 results

```
((pet OR animal) AND interaction) AND ((Blood pressure) OR (Cortisol reduction))
```

also gives 2287 results

By comparison this third variant contains unbalanced parentheses/brackets on the left (a second extra right parenthesis/bracket) and gives 0 results:

```
((pet OR animal) AND interaction)) AND ((Blood pressure) OR (Cortisol reduction))
```

The search results query text rendered immediately above Search Results shows you how the search has been parsed.



Example of search query text

# Truncation or using Wildcards for searching with partial search terms

Wildcards can be used to construct queries with partial search terms.

Use an asterisk \* to match any number of characters.

For example:

*duoden\**

matches *duodenal*, *duodenectomy*, and so on.

*p\*diatric*

·matches *pediatric*, *paediatric*, and so on.

A question mark ? can be used to match 0 or any single character

For example:

*l?st*

matches *last*, *lest*, *list*, and so on.

*200?*

matches any years between *2000* and *2009*

## Important caveats to be aware of when using truncation

Wildcards cannot be added to the beginning of search terms, this generates an error.

Wildcards cannot be used in an expression enclosed with double quotes, our search engine ignores wildcards when quotes are used, and may give incorrect results.

For example, searching for

*"p\*diatric"*

is equivalent to searching for

*p diatric*

Avoid excessive use of wildcards, as in some cases, using wildcards could affect performance of the platform.

For example, searching for

*comp\**

is more resource intensive than

*comput\**

because in the former there are more consecutive character variations to process.

**i** Note that wildcards are not automatically stemmed.

# Word Stemming

Stemming involves reducing query terms to their most basic form, or stem, and using this to identify all the derivatives of that word such as plurals which should be considered a match.

For example, searching for

*initialization*

will also return results for *initialize*, *initials*, etc. Results matching the exact query term searched *initialization* will rank higher than its derivatives in the search results list.

Stemming can be disabled by using double quotes around words or phrases. Thus it is possible to search for a precise variant of a word including plurals or singular variants of words, for example

*"dog" NOT dogs.*

Word Stemming is enabled by default for all publication text fields, such as full-text and abstract as well as the Advanced Search "Indexing Term" field which searches across all database index fields.

 Note that wildcards are not automatically stemmed.

# Using Double Quotes for exact matching of words and phrases

Using double quotes "" will find an exact word or phrase and disables stemming.

- ▣ Wildcards – both \* and ? are ignored when using quotes
- ▣ Within phrases in quotes AND, OR, NOT are treated as words which are part of the search expression, not Boolean operators.
- ▣ Proximity Operators are ignored within quotes

# Special Characters

Accented characters, Subscripts and superscripts and Unicode characters are all accepted when searching.

Similarly ISBNs and ISSNs can be searched both with and without hyphens.

# Stop words

Closed-class words, such as articles, pronouns, and conjunctions. In English, words such as *a*, *is*, *she*, *the*, *that*, and *will* are filtered out of a search query. For example, in the query *the red house*, the search discards *the* and searches for the terms *red,house*.

But this feature is disabled if stop words are part of a phrase surrounded by quotes, then stop words are not discounted "*the red house*" searches for all 3 words in that exact order.

# Proximity Searching

Enables searching for two or more terms that appear within a specified distance of one another.

Procedure: Place quotation marks around the terms you want to search for, followed by a tilde ~ and a number indicating the maximum number of words separating the terms.

For example:

```
"metabolic mechanism"~3
```

searches for the words *metabolic* and *mechanism* within 3 words of each other.

**i** If a proximity operator is included inside double quotes "~" it is ignored

# British / American Spellings

The CABI Digital Library search functionality automatically finds British/American spelling variants across all content fields and full text, with the exception of the Keyword/Index fields where it looks for precise matches of spelling.

**i** To look up the precise word or spelling variant of CABI's index terms please use the [CABI Thesaurus](#).

A dedicated English dictionary is used to tackle the variations on word spelling caused by differences found among English speaking countries, and by alternative spellings within the same country.

The varcon (Variant Conversion Info) lexicon is used to enhance English handling and it includes spellings in American, British, Canadian, and Australian and also variant spellings within these languages. British – US synonyms cannot be deactivated with double quotes.

Example: if you search for

*aa:chile*

(aa = author affiliation)

The results will also give items with 'chili' in the author affiliation field, because this is considered a synonym of 'chile'.

For indexing terms, truncation may also be used when searching to ensure that spelling variants are retrieved.

For example search for

*colo?r*

rather than

*color*

to ensure retrieval of any records where the word 'colour' occurs as part of the index terms, for instance "*colour patterns*" in the descriptor field.

# Advanced Search

The Advanced search page enables the building of complex search queries across specific fields using multiple search boxes which can be linked together with Boolean operators (AND, OR, NOT).

- ▣ It is possible to add as many additional search rows as needed to the entry form.
- ▣ Searching on 'All fields' searches across all database fields.
- ▣ There are three Compound fields which enable searching across selected multiple fields at the same time:
  - ▣ Authors/Contributors – searches across authors, editors as well as corporate author
  - ▣ Title – searches across article title fields (both original language as well as translated English title)
  - ▣ Indexing Term – searches across all indexing fields in one go – Descriptors, Identifiers, Organism Descriptors, Geographic Location and Broad Term
- ▣ To search by language please use the two digit ISO 639-1 codes which may be found here: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\\_of\\_ISO\\_639-1\\_codes](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_ISO_639-1_codes)

It is also possible to specify search limits using a variety of filters:

- ▣ Creation Date – the date when the content was uploaded to CABI's platform. For databases this is the date when the abstract was uploaded by CABI. In contrast the "Year" field in the Advanced Search field drop down can be used to search the year of publication of the original article or full text, rather than that of its corresponding abstract.
- ▣ Publication type of Abstract Record – limits results to specific types of content such as journal articles or conference proceedings
- ▣ Open access content or subscribed only content (Note that this refers to the access status of the item hosted in CABI Digital Library and not to the source content in case of our abstract records. To filter on Open Access source content, you can use the '[Limit to: Open Access available](#)' filter on the search results page).

# Advanced Search

ADVANCED SEARCH

RECENT SEARCHES

SAVED SEARCHES

Enter Search term

AND  Enter Search term

Creation Date  All Dates

Last

Custom Range  To

Publication Type of Abstract record

- All fields -

- All fields -
- Abstract
- Affiliation
- Authors/Contributors
- CABI Product (sc code)
- CABIcode
- Conference Title
- Digital Object Identifier (DOI)
- Indexing Term
- ISBN
- ISSN
- Keywords
- Language(s) of Summary
- Language(s) of Text
- Publication Type of Abstract record
- Publisher
- Record number / PAN
- Source Publication
- Title
- Year

## More Options

- All content
- Open access content only
- Only content I have full access to

Search

Advanced Search Screen

# Search by field tag

In addition to using Advanced Search it is also possible to use field tags (or codes) to search specific database index fields. For example to search for a title in the publication source field search:

```
do:"animal feed science and technology"
```

Or to search for an indexing term from [CABI's Thesaurus](#):

```
indexingterm:"holiday"
```

It is recommended that phrases are placed in quotes for exact matching when searching using field tags.

## List of all index field names and field tags

The list shows all index field names, their tag codes and the corresponding field to use in Advanced Search.

### Compound fields

Database field name	Field Tag that can be used to search this field	Advanced Search Field
All	n/a	<b>'All fields'</b> searches across all database fields in one go
Title	title	<b>'Title'</b> field searches across ET, AT in one go
Authors/Contributors	author	<b>'Authors/Contributors'</b> searches across AU,

		ED, CA, combined
Indexing Term	indexingterm	<b>'Indexing Term'</b> (combined Index information field which searches across DE, ID, OD, UP, GL)

## Regular fields

Database field name	Field Tag that can be used to search this field	Advanced Search Field	Notes
Abstract	ab	Abstract	
Additional title	at	Title	
Author	au	Authors/Contributors	
Author Affiliation	aa	Affiliation	
Author email	em	Not available in Advanced Search	
Broad terms	up	Indexing Term	
CABICODE	cc	CABI Code	
Conference Location	cl	Not available in Advanced	

		Search	
Conference Title	ct	Conference Title	
Corporate Author	ca	Authors/Contributors	
Country of Publication	cp	Not available in Advanced Search	
Descriptor	de	Indexing Term	
Document Editor	ed	Authors/Contributors.	
DOI	oi	DOI	
English title, article	et	Title	
Geographic location	gl	Indexing Term	
Identifier	id	Indexing Term	
ISBN	bn	ISBN	
ISSN	sn	ISSN	
Item Type	it	Publication Type of Abstract record	
Language		Language	

of summary	ls	of Summary	
Language of text	la	Language of Text	Use <a href="#">ISO 639 language codes</a> instead of language names
Location of Publisher	lp	Not available in Advanced Search	
Organism descriptor	od	Indexing Term	
Publication title	do	Publication Title	This is phrase-indexed - Use full source publication title rather than individual words from the title
Publisher name	pb	Publisher Name	
Record number/PAN	pa	Record number/PAN	
Sequence Code	sc	CABI Product (sc code) (See <a href="#">full list here</a> )	
Web URL	ur	Not available in Advanced Search	
Year of Publication	yr	Year	

# CABI Product Codes (Sequence Codes)

The codes below can be used to create a search query to search within one or more products. In a normal search the field designator SC must be indicated, followed by a colon and the two digit product sc:CA code or in a search *<sc:CA AND beekeeping>*.

To search across one or more products use the Boolean operator OR to specify the products

*<(sc:CA OR sc:X0) AND beekeeping>*

However, if you are using the codes the in the Advanced Search CABI Product field, it is not necessary to specify the field abbreviation SC, you can use just the product code.

<b>Description</b>	<b>Code</b>
Abstracts on Hygiene & Communicable Diseases	1T
Abstracts on Hygiene & Communicable Diseases Archive	X1
Agricultural Engineering Abstracts	8A
AIRCA	AR
Animal Breeding Abstracts	0A
Animal Breeding Abstracts Archive	XA
Animal Science	ZA
Biocontrol News & Information	7E
Biofuels Abstracts	YB
Botanical Pesticides	YA
CAB Abstracts	CA
CAB Abstracts Archive	X0

CABI Scientific Outputs	CB
CTA legacy	RC
Dairy Science Abstracts	OD
Dairy Science Abstracts Archive	XD
Environmental Impact	ZG
Forestry Abstracts Archive	XF
Forest Science	KG
GARA Malawi	RM
GARA Myanmar	RB
GARA Pakistan	RP
GARA Philippines	RF
Global Agricultural Research Archive (GARA)	RR
Global Health	HE
Global Health Archive	X9
Grasslands & Forage Abstracts	OG
Grasslands & Forage Abstracts Archive	XG
Helminthological Abstracts	OH
Helminthological Abstracts Archive	XH
Horticultural Abstracts	OC
Horticultural Abstracts Archive	XC

Index Veterinarius	0I
Leisure Tourism	3R
Maize Abstracts	6P
Mycology	MR
Nematological Abstracts	0T
Nutrition Abs & Reviews Archive	XN
Nutrition Abs & Revs - Series A - Human and Experimental	0U
Nutrition Abs & Revs - Series B - Livestock Feeds & Feeding	0N
Ornamental Horticulture	7C
Pig News & Information	7D
Plant Breeding Abstracts	0P
Plant Breeding Abstracts Archive	XP
Plant Growth Regulator Abstracts	7W
Potato Abstracts	7K
Poultry Abstracts	7A
Protozoological Abstracts	0Y
Review of Agricultural Entomology	0E
Review of Agricultural Entomology Archive	XE
Review of Aromatic & Medicinal Plants	5C
Review of Medical & Veterinary Entomology	0J

Review of Medical & Veterinary Entomology Archive	XJ
Review of Medical & Veterinary Mycology	OL
Review of Medical & Veterinary Mycology Archive	XL
Review of Plant Pathology	OM
Review of Plant Pathology Archive	XM
Rice Abstracts	7U
RUFORUM	RU
Rural Development Abstracts	2R
Seed Abstracts	7G
Soils & Fertilizers	OS
Soils & Fertilizers Archive	XS
Sugar Industry Abstracts	1C
Tropical Diseases Bulletin	2T
Tropical Diseases Bulletin Archive	X2
Veterinary Bulletin	OV
Veterinary Bulletin Archive	XV
VetMed Resource	VE
Weed Abstracts	OW
Weed Abstracts Archive	XW
World Agricultural Economics and	OR

Rural Sociology Abstracts (W.A.E.R.S.A.)

World Agricultural Economics and Rural  
Sociology Abstracts (W.A.E.R.S.A.) Archive

XR

Sometimes it can be useful to build a search query for CABI's primary publications. Below is a list of Sequence Codes you could use.

Agriculture Ebooks	W1
agriRxiv	AX
Animal and Veterinary Sciences Ebooks	W2
Animal Behaviour and Welfare Cases	AC
Animal Science Cases	NC
CABI Agriculture and Bioscience	AB
CABI Compendium	QM
CABI ebooks Open Access	GY
CABI One Health	1H
CABI Reviews	FR
Descriptions of Fungi and Bacteria	FX
Distribution Maps of Plant Diseases	FW
Distribution Maps of Plant Pests	FV
Environmental Sciences Ebooks	W3
Food Science and Nutrition Cases	FC

Forestry Ebooks	W7
Human, Food & Nutrition Sciences Ebooks	W4
Human-Animal Interactions	HA
Juno Evidence Knowledge Bank	JK
Leisure and Tourism Ebooks	W5
One Health Cases	HC
One Health Knowledge Bank	1K
Plant Health Cases	PC
Plant Sciences Ebooks	W6
Plantwise Knowledge Bank	PW
searchRxiv	SS
Tourism Cases	TC

# CABI's controlled vocabulary and CABI Thesaurus

CABI's controlled vocabulary covers pure and applied life sciences, technology and social sciences. The [CABI Thesaurus](#) enables term look up and browsing of CABI's controlled vocabulary.

When you search using CABI's index terms you are focusing the search to the most relevant papers related to your topic specifically indexed with that term by CABI's subject experts, not simply papers that happen to mention words in the abstract or title.

**Descriptor** – topic based terms, used to describe what an article or publication is about, e.g. *disease prevention, epidemiology*. These terms form part of CABI's controlled vocabulary.

**Organism Descriptor** - plant and animal names and scientific names part of the organism's taxonomy.

**Identifier** – new concepts or organisms that are not already in CABI's controlled vocabulary, terminology that is still developing. Alternatively, identifiers can also include older terms or concepts which may have dropped out of current use and been replaced by more up to date descriptors.

**Geographic location** - Location where the research took place, not necessarily where it is published.

**Broad term** - Terms which exist above a search term in the taxonomic or geographic hierarchy in the CAB Thesaurus, e.g. *primates, viruses, Southern Europe*. Searching with Broader Terms will automatically find all relevant narrower terms immediately below that term. This can be especially useful when searching for information across geographic locations. For example if you search for a region such as Southern Europe as the broad term this finds records with geographic locations of all of the individual countries located in this region.

**Using our controlled vocabulary when searching:** All controlled vocabulary information applied to database records is automatically included in free text searching available from the Home page, or the Advanced Search "All fields" search, to ensure maximum retrievability of

appropriate results.

To search only across controlled vocabulary terms use the Advanced Search “Indexing Term” field option, or from the general Home page search using the field designator ‘indexingterm’ followed by a colon, e.g.

indexingterm: helminths

When searching for index terms which consist of phrases enclose the phrase in quotation marks to ensure that the entire term is parsed correctly, otherwise the search looks for *indexingterm: disease* and the term *prevention* separately and may give incorrect information.

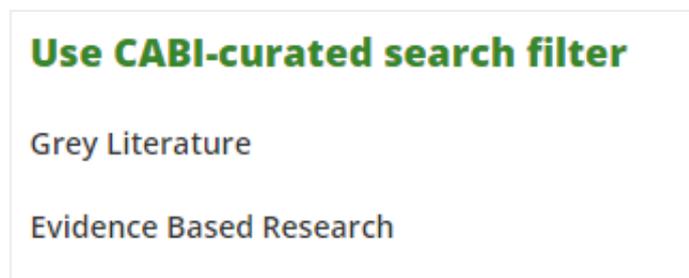
indexingterm: “disease prevention”

CABI is working on a new Thesaurus Tool which will be integrated with the CABI Digital Library which will enable term look up and addition of terms to search, anticipated for mid-2024.

# Special search filter options

The CABI Digital Library uses different filters to enable users to quickly limit their database search results to specific types of content. In this section we explain how these filters work.

- ▣ CABI-curated search filters
  - ▣ [Grey Literature](#)
  - ▣ [Evidence Based Research](#)
- ▣ Full Text filters
  - ▣ [Open Access Full Text available](#)
  - ▣ [CABI-Hosted Full Text available](#)



CABI-curated search filters

The filter has been constructed by CABI's editorial content team with advice from librarians and information professionals; it is kept under review and updated periodically.

## Grey Literature

The "Grey Literature" filter consists of a pre-made search strategy identifying certain categories of content originating outside of traditional publishing. The content is sourced and selected for inclusion in our databases by CABI's editorial content team based on CABI's scoping criteria, and indexed with specific database item types (IT).

The search strategy used for this filter makes use of the Item Type field:

it:("annual report" OR bulletin OR "bulletin article" OR miscellaneous OR patent OR standard OR thesis) OR it:("conference proceedings" NOT "journal issue") OR it:("conference paper"

NOT "journal article")

## Evidence Based Research

The “Evidence Based Research” filter consists of a pre-made search strategy specifically designed to identify various types of literature which presents evidence synthesis, such as systematic reviews, meta analyses and scoping reviews, that is included in our databases.

As of November 2023 this is the strategy used for the Evidence Based Research filter:

"literature review" OR "literature reviews" OR "evidence based veterinary" OR "jbi evidence synthesis" OR "overview of reviews" OR "systematic review" OR "systematic reviews" OR "evidence synthesis" OR "evidence syntheses" OR "meta analysis" OR "meta analyses" OR "systematised review" OR "systematized review" OR "systematised reviews" OR "systematized reviews" OR "rapid review" OR "rapid reviews" OR "scoping review" OR "scoping reviews" OR "integrative review" OR "systematic map" OR "systematic mapping" OR "critically appraised topic" OR "critically appraised topics" OR "veterinary evidence" OR "knowledge summary" OR "knowledge summaries" OR "Cochrane register" OR "Cochrane review" OR "Cochrane Library" OR "evidence based practice" OR "evidence map" OR "evidence mapping" OR "mapping evidence review" OR "mapping review" OR "meta narrative review" OR "meta review" OR "mixed methods review" OR "mixed methods synthesis" OR "mixed papers review" OR "overview of reviews" OR "rapid evidence assessment" OR "rapid evidence review" OR "rapid evidence summary" OR "rapid evidence summaries" OR "rapid realist synthesis" OR "rapid living review" OR "rapid review" OR "realist review" OR "evidence gap map" OR "gap map" OR "umbrella review" OR "scoping review" OR "scoping content review" OR "scoping literature review" OR "scoping meta review" OR "scoping report" OR "Campbell Collaboration" OR "Collaboration for Environmental Evidence" OR "narrative review" OR "narrative reviews" OR "evidence review" OR "evidence based review" OR "evidence report" OR "metaanalysis" OR "metaanalyses" OR "systematic overview" OR "structured literature review" OR "mixed research synthesis" OR "mixed studies review" OR "mixed treatment comparison" OR "multiple treatment comparison" OR "realist synthesis" OR "review of reviews" OR "reviews of reviews" OR "systematic literature review" OR "systemic review" OR "narrative synthesis"

## Open Access Full Text

The “Open Access Full Text available” filter offers a quick way of zeroing in on literature that is distributed online and identified as “Open Access” free of access charges, and which has been sourced and selected for inclusion in our databases based on CABI’s subject scoping criteria.

## **CABI-Hosted Full Text**

The “CABI-Hosted Full Text available” filter provides access to literature specifically gathered and included in CABI’s Full Text repository of over 790,000 items and growing, made possible by agreement with third party contributors, and which has been specially digitised and indexed by CABI. Nearly 70% of the content is not reliably available anywhere else. This category of content enables researchers to access hard to find material published from across agriculture, health and the life sciences ensuring that they have access to all relevant literature, not just that which is readily available.

# Quick searches by specific year range filters

Users can easily narrow down their searches of abstract records by specific year ranges by selecting dedicated buttons in the left pane of the search result page.

- 'This year' filter returns all abstract records of items published within the current year (i.e., from 1/1/2024 to date).
- 'Last year' filter returns all abstract records of items published last year (i.e., from 1/1/2023 to 31/12/2023).
- 'Last 5 years' filter returns all abstract records of items published within the last 5 years (i.e., from 1/1/2019 to to 31/12/2023).

Note that, in comparison the 'creation date' is the date when the abstract was added to the database, whereas the publication date is the date of the original publication.

# Instructions for recreating saved searches from CAB Direct

## Tips for converting MyCABI searches to the search syntax of the CABI Digital Library

The CABI Digital Library uses a different set of technologies from CAB Direct and CABI's older websites, so there are some important differences in how the search syntax works which you need to be aware of if you wish to re-use any searches previously saved in MyCABI.

We provide a short summary of the search features of the CABI Digital Library, a more detailed description is available from our Help file available here: <https://help.cabi.org/cabi-digital-library-help/>

**Boolean operators MUST be capitalised**, so use **AND, OR, NOT**; search will not work correctly with lower case Boolean operators.

**Word stemming is automatically applied to all publication text fields, including author names**, to help the user automatically find all the most relevant results possible.

- ❑ It is not necessary to use wildcards to pick up plurals or other derivatives, the word stemming feature will pick these up automatically. So for example, searching for *initialization* will also return results for *initialize, initials, etc.*
- ❑ Please refrain from overuse of wildcards as this can affect search performance.
- ❑ **You can use double quotes to completely switch word stemming off**, including switching plurals off. So searching for "cat and dog" will only find records matching this exact phrase with the singular words, but not the plural version <cats and dogs>
- ❑ **Use quotation marks when searching author names if you wish to find only exact matches and avoid stemming.**
- ❑ UK/US spelling variants are applied in all full text and database text fields.

**Special rules for index fields:** Word stemming is not applied to database index fields, the search looks for precise matching of terms and spelling.

- ❑ Use the CABI Thesaurus <https://www.cabi.org/cabithesaurus/> to look up the exact spelling variant of index terms to apply to your search.
- ❑ Note that CABI uses British spelling variants.
- ❑ Use truncation if you are unsure of spelling when searching in the index fields, for example, *de:colo?r* brings back the same results as *de:colour*, whereas *de:color* (the American spelling variant) finds 0 results.
- ❑ Alternatively, if you don't know which index field and spelling variant to specify, use the Advanced Search "Indexing field" option which searches all index fields simultaneously including Descriptors and Identifiers. CABI adds US spelling variants of any index terms to the Identifier field, so searching the "Indexing Term" super field which automatically includes Identifiers, will automatically pick up any spelling variants.

### **Use double quotes "" for exact matching of words and phrases, and to disable stemming.**

Use quotation marks to find results containing an exact word or phrase, for example *"medicinal plants"* brings back only results matching this precise phrase, rather than results containing both words separately anywhere in the text.

- ❑ **Importantly, wildcards – both \* and ? are ignored when using quotes and will cause a search error.**
- ❑ Within phrases in quotes AND, OR, NOT are treated as words which are part of the search expression, not Boolean operators.
- ❑ Proximity Operators are ignored within quotes

### **Truncation or wildcards can be used to find variants:**

- ❑ **An asterisk \* matches any number of characters.** For example, *duoden\** matches *duodenal*, *duodenectomy*, and so on.
- ❑ **A questionmark ? can be used to match 0 or any single character.** For example, *l?st* matches *last*, *lest*, *list*, and so on.
- ❑ **Truncation will not work within quotes, please don't use \* or ? when enclosing phrases or words in quotes as this will cause a search error.**

**To do a proximity search**, use quotation marks around terms you wish to specify followed

by a tilde ~ and a number indicating the maximum number of words separating the terms.

- ❑ For example, "*metabolic mechanism*"~3 searches for the words *metabolic* and *mechanism* within 3 words of each other.
- ❑ Please note that Proximity operators are ignored within quotation marks.

**Use Parentheses or Curved Brackets to group search terms when combining three or more terms with different Boolean operators, to indicate the order of search.** Terms enclosed within parentheses/brackets are processed together first by the search engine. For example, "*care AND (cat OR dog)*" searches for documents containing *care* and either *cat* or *dog*.

It is possible to use the same field abbreviations to search as were used on CAB Direct, a list of all field abbreviations may be found here: <https://help.cabi.org/cabi-digital-library-help/search/search-by-field-tag>

### **To avoid search errors when converting searches saved on CAB Direct to the CABI Digital Library:**

Change any Boolean operators applied between terms to capitals **AND, OR, NOT**.

If your saved search included phrases or words truncated with wildcards and enclosed in quotes, you now need to replace the truncated terms with the actual word variants you wish to find, to avoid getting search errors.

- ❑ For example, if your previous CAB Direct search expression contained the phrase "*community farm\**" you could replace it with the following: "*community farm*" OR "*community farms*" OR "*community farming*" OR "*community farmed*" to ensure similar results are returned and to avoid any search errors.

Please avoid overuse of wildcards, especially for single words, as this may slow down search performance.

Pay particular attention to the positioning of brackets (parentheses) in long searches when

combining multiple phrases with Boolean Operators, to ensure that the search logic is working correctly. Alternatively you may wish to break down your search into sub-component searches and use the Recent Searches 'Combine Searches' feature to combine those sub-components, to ensure that the overall Boolean search logic is applied correctly.

Whenever possible search using CABI's controlled vocabulary to ensure best matches. For example if you are doing a search on 'alternative medicines' search the descriptor term field, so search *de: "complementary and alternative medicine"* which will automatically retrieve the majority of records that match this topic. This may help you reduce the overall length of the search and ensure you retrieve the best matching results.

Bear in mind that word stemming is not applied to CABI's indexing fields, so please use the CAB Thesaurus to look up exact terms.

If you have any doubts about recreating saved searches from CAB Direct, please feel free to contact us at [support@cabi.org](mailto:support@cabi.org)

# FAQs

# Instructions for configuring EZproxy server

In order to provide access to resources that use https, your EZproxy server must be configured with an [SSL certificate](#).

To do so, please follow instructions at this link

[https://help.oclc.org/Library\\_Management/EZproxy/EZproxy\\_database\\_stanzas/Database\\_stanzas\\_C/CABI\\_Resources?sl=en](https://help.oclc.org/Library_Management/EZproxy/EZproxy_database_stanzas/Database_stanzas_C/CABI_Resources?sl=en)

IMPORTANT: EZproxy stand-alone users, please add the CookieLaw stanza to resolve the Cookie Banner pop-up issue. You can find further details here, [https://help-de.oclc.org/Library\\_Management/EZproxy/EZproxy\\_database\\_stanzas/Database\\_stanzas\\_C/CookieLaw?sl=de](https://help-de.oclc.org/Library_Management/EZproxy/EZproxy_database_stanzas/Database_stanzas_C/CookieLaw?sl=de)

# Contact

# Contact us

If you need any support or guidance our team is here to help. You can contact us at [support@cabi.org](mailto:support@cabi.org)

# Share your thoughts

How has your experience of CABI Digital Library been so far? We would love to hear your thoughts and feedback on the platform, resources and this help documentation.

[Share your feedback](#)

## Join our research panel

We know how important it is to have access to resources that support the needs of users. We are committed to developing resources that meet the needs of researchers, students, practitioners, lecturers and more... But we need your input!

If you'd like to be part of our new product development journey and be the first to test and review resources, then we'd love you to join our research panel.

[Be part of our research panel](#)