CAB Abstracts® includes over 7,200,000 bibliographic records dating from 1910 to the present, with over 200,000 records added each year. Selective coverage includes over 9,000 journals, as well as more than 2,500 books, reports, patents, and conference proceedings.

Major areas of coverage include agriculture, animal health, forestry, human nutrition, and the management and conservation of natural resources.

SEARCH FIELD RULES

- Searches are not case sensitive.
- Enclose exact phrases in quotes.
- Terms can be connected with search operators: **AND**, **OR**, **NOT**, or **SAME**.
- If no operators are specified, ISI inserts a default **AND** between terms.
- Wildcard/Truncation symbols:
  - * = zero to many characters
  - ? = 1 character
  - $ = 0 or 1 character
- Wildcards can be placed within a word or at the end of a word.
- Use parentheses to specify order of precedence; otherwise, operators will be applied in the following order: **SAME**, **NOT**, **AND**, **OR**.

FINDING FULL TEXT AND CALL NUMBERS WITH UC-eLinks

Use the **UC-eLinks** button to:
- Link directly to the electronic full text when available.
- Check the Melvyl Catalog to see if UCB has the item in print.
- Request item if UCB does not own it.
UC-eLinks works best with post-1972 CAB Abstracts citations; to locate the full text of pre-1972 citations, search for the full publication title in Melvyl or ask at the Bioscience Library Reference Desk.

SEARCH

Use the drop-down search menus and operators (AND, OR, NOT) to customize your search. Search by topic, author, journal title, year, and other fields.

**Topic**

Use the **Topic** field to search within document titles, abstracts, and descriptors (subject terms); choose **Title** from the drop-down search menu to restrict your search to document titles only. Be sure to search for both **British and American spellings** (CAB is a UK database), use truncation for plurals, and include synonyms.

- Enter `sul*ur* AND legume*` (or `sul*ur* legume*`) to retrieve records containing sulfur (or sulfuric, sulphur, sulphurous, etc.) and legume(s).

**Author**

There are two ways to search for authors: the **Author Index** and **Author Search**.

To use the **Author Index**, click the search aid icon to choose from a list of authors, editors, inventors, and corporate authors. **This is the best way to find all forms of an author’s name for the most comprehensive search.**

1. To find all articles by Kenneth J. Carpenter, click , enter **Carpenter K** in the search box, and click **Move To**.
2. Click the **Add** buttons to add **Carpenter K**, **Carpenter KJ**, and **Carpenter KJ et al** to your search. Click **OK**.
3. Click “**Search**” to complete the search.

To use the **Author Search**, choose **Author** from the drop-down search menu and enter an author’s **last name and first initial, followed by a wildcard (*)**. You may also enter last names without initials.

- Enter `carpenter k*` to find **Carpenter K**, **Carpenter KA**, **Carpenter KJ**, **Carpenter KLH**, etc.

**Publication Name**

There are two ways to search for records from a specific source publication: the **Publication Name Index** and **Publication Search**.

Select **Search** to choose from a list of source titles, or select **Publication Name** from the drop-down search menu and enter a full or partial title with an asterisk (*) wildcard.

- Enter `journal of forestry` to retrieve articles published in this journal.

**Address**

Records include the addresses of the primary authors provided by the source publication. Abbreviations and spellings vary, so use truncation (wildcards) to find variants. For example, Univ* matches University, Universidad, and Univ.

Use the **SAME** operator to search for two or more words in the same address.

- Enter `univ* SAME calif* SAME berkeley` to retrieve records containing some form of the address “University of California at Berkeley.”
Document Type
The default search includes all document types. Some available document types include Journal Article, Book Chapter, Conference Paper, Patent, etc.
- Select Conference Paper to retrieve records from meetings, symposia, etc.

CABICODES
CABICODES are classification codes that indicate the broad subject areas covered by source documents. Each code consists of two letters followed by three numbers and a name (e.g. JJ100 Soil Biology). Every record in CAB Abstracts has at least one CABICODE. Click the search aid (🔍) to select from a list of available CABICODES, displayed in a browsable hierarchy; click (scope note icon) to see more information about a specific code.
- Select FF060 (Plant Physiology and Biochemistry) to retrieve records on topics such as plant nutrition and plant-water relations.

CAS Registry Numbers
A CAS Registry Number® is a unique numeric identifier assigned to a chemical substance in the CAS Registry database.
- Enter 458-37-7 OR 10102-43-9 to find records containing either substance (nitric oxide or curcumin).

Descriptors
Descriptors are preferred terms assigned by subject specialists to represent the content of a source document. There are four types of CAB descriptors, all searchable by selecting Descriptors from the drop-down search menu:
- Descriptors (specific terms: Irrigation, Viticulture, Grapes)
- Broad Descriptors (broader terms: Plants, Angiosperms, Developed Countries)
- Organism Descriptors (Vitis vinifera)
- Geographic Location (USA, California)
Click the search aid (🔍) to select from a list of available terms, displayed in a browsable hierarchy; click (thesaurus details icon) to see more information about a specific descriptor.
- Enter California AND viticulture to find records with California in the Geographic Location field and viticulture in the Descriptors field.

Note: To browse available geographic terms, click the search aid (🔍) and click on the 📚 icon beside General, then select Named Regions and Countries.

COMBINING SEARCHES
Use the Search History link to combine results of your previous searches (using AND or OR) to save your search history, and to create automated search alerts.
- Click the checkboxes beside Set #1 and Set #2 and combine sets using AND to see all records common to both search 1 and search 2.
- Click the checkboxes beside Set #1 and Set #2 and combine sets using OR to see all records that are in either search 1 or search 2.

ADVANCED SEARCH
Advanced Search enables you to create complex search queries using field tags, search operators, and wildcards. It also allows you to combine previous searches using the NOT operator. Remember to include a number sign (#) before each search number.
- Enter AU=Allen-Diaz AND AU=Kelly to find articles written by both authors.
- Enter DE=(woodlands OR grasslands) AND TS=Quercus to find records containing woodlands or grasslands in the Descriptors field and Quercus in the title, abstract, or Descriptors fields.
- Enter #1 NOT #2 to see all records from search 1 that are not in search 2.

REFINING SEARCH RESULTS
After performing your search, use the Refine Results sidebar on the Results page to filter your result set (up to 100,000 records) by broad subject areas, source titles, document types, year published, etc.

ANALYZING SEARCH RESULTS
Use the Analyze Results link on the right side of the Results page to produce a report ranking your search results by author, source title, year, address, or other criteria.

PRINTING, SAVING, EMAILING AND EXPORTING
Use the check boxes beside each record on the Results page to select records for output. Then scroll to the bottom of the page to choose from the following options:
- The Add to Marked List button collects selected citations across multiple searches in CAB Abstracts and allows you to print, save, email, or export them all at the same time.
- Click the Print button to get a brief, printable HTML version of your selected citations.
- Click the E-mail button to email the selected citations to yourself or a colleague, in HTML or plain text format.
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