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CABI Training Materials

Ovid (Silver Platter) platform

Advanced Searching of CAB Abstracts

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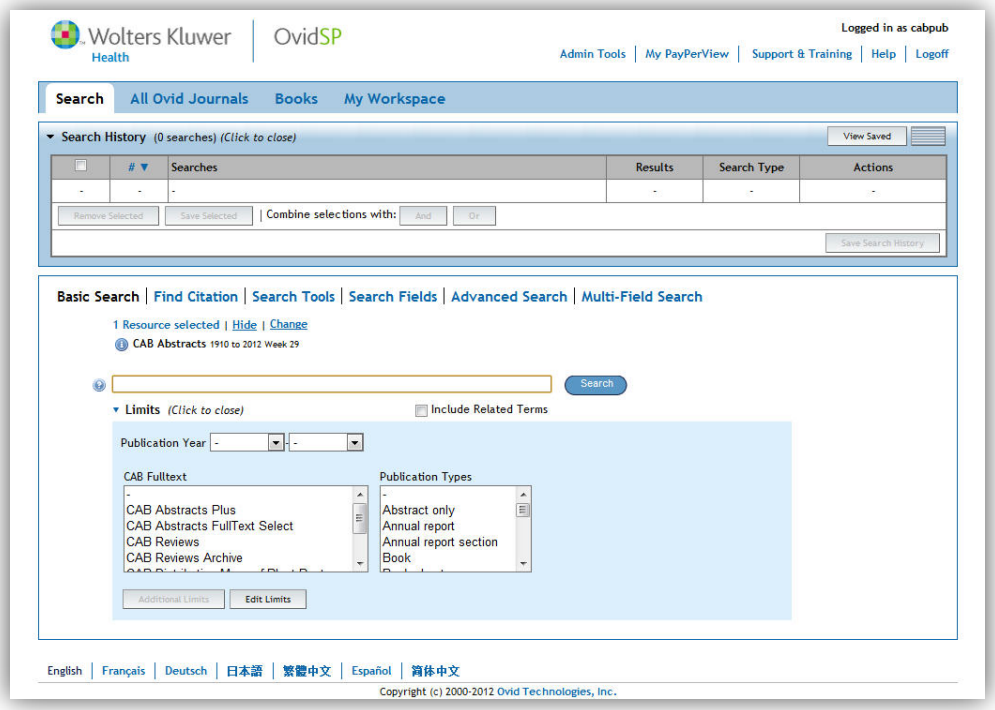
The OvidSP Database Selection Screen

With the new OvidSP interface, you can choose one of four search modes to use for your search. The default option is **Basic Search,** which can be used for very quick and simple searches. It has some very nice features to aid the novice searcher, and can provide good results. However, it does have certain limitations and may not provide you with a truly comprehensive search. For the best search results, and for more complex searches, it is better to user the **Advanced Search** option. The **Multi-Field Search** mode is also good for more complex searches, as it provides multiple search boxes.

Basic Search, is the subject of a separate user guide, called “Simple Searching of CAB Abstracts with OvidSP”, and can be downloaded from:

http://www.cabi.org/default.aspx?site=170&page=2044

Below is the OvidSP main page, from which all the search options can be accessed.



The rest of this tutorial explains the use of the OvidSP **Advanced Search** mode.

Advanced search introduction

Unlike **Basic Search**, the **Advanced Search** mode uses the more conventional search technique of searching for keywords and phrases which can be combined, when necessary, to form what is referred to as a Search Statement using Boolean Operators (**AND**, **OR** and **NOT**). This is sometimes known as "syntax searching" and can be very powerful.

To perform such an "advanced" search, important words or phrases are selected from the original search question and are searched for either individually, one at a time, or combined into a single search statement using one or more Boolean Operator. Irrelevant or inconsequential words, often referred to as "stop-words", should be excluded from the search, as they have no conceptual meaning and they could result in the retrieval of irrelevant records.

The basic techniques, used for this type of search, are the subject of a separate user guide entitled "An Introduction to Searching", which can be downloaded from the CABI Web site: http://www.cabi.org/default.aspx?site=170&page=2044

In a typical CAB Abstracts database record, there may be twenty or more separate data fields. The default search index is known as the Free-Text index, and is compiled from the words that appear in at least 9 of these fields. The list includes the following, major data fields:

English Item Title	TI	Organism Descriptors	OD
Original Item Title	OT	Geographic Descriptors	GL
Source	SO	Identifiers	ID
Abstract	AB	Broad Terms	BT
Descriptors	DE		

The Free-Text index is the default index, and its use will retrieve the maximum number of records. However, because it includes fields like the Title and Abstract, it is also likely to produce the highest number of irrelevant records, simply because the search terms that have been used appear in the record without any specific meaning. As an example, you may be searching for important papers about the breeding of maize but, by searching for **Maize** and **Breeding**, in the Free-Text index, you may get papers about the breeding of cattle fed on maize. In order to improve the quality of your search (its relevance), it is often better to restrict your search to a specific data field, like the Title field or the Organism Descriptor field. This is known as Field Searching.

Field Searching

All the fields that appear in the Free-Text index, shown above, are individually searchable. This is very useful for refining your search.

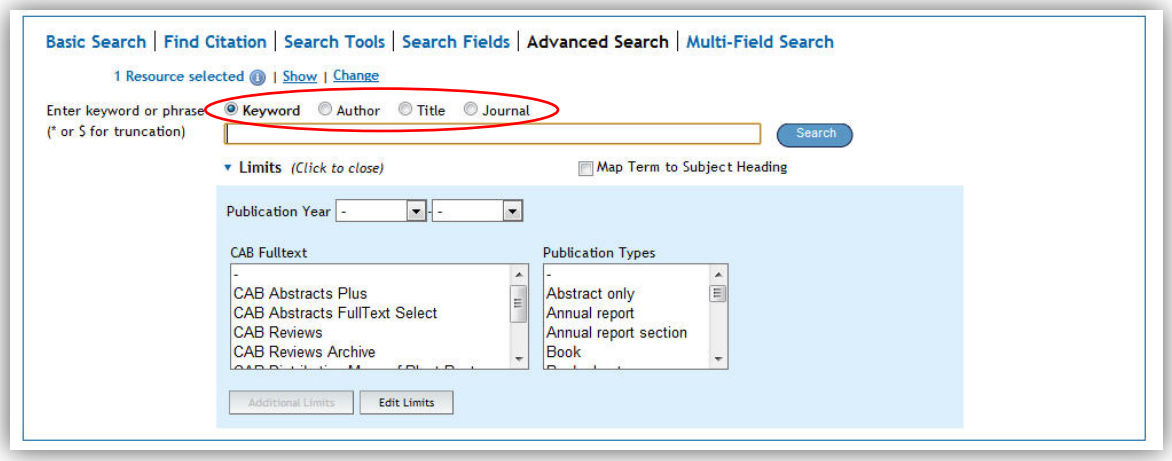
Field searching with **Advanced Search** can be done in three different ways.

1. On the search screen, there are four round buttons: **Keyword**, **Author**, **Title** and **Journal**. The default option is **Keyword**, which searches the complete, Free-Text index. The other three options allow you to limit your search to specific database record fields, as follows:

   Author: Limits the search to the Author field, in which you can search for Author and Editor names.

   Title: Limits the search to words or phrases in the Title field, which contains the title of the original article that has been abstracted.

   Journal: Limits to the original Serial Title field which includes the title of the publication in which the article was published.

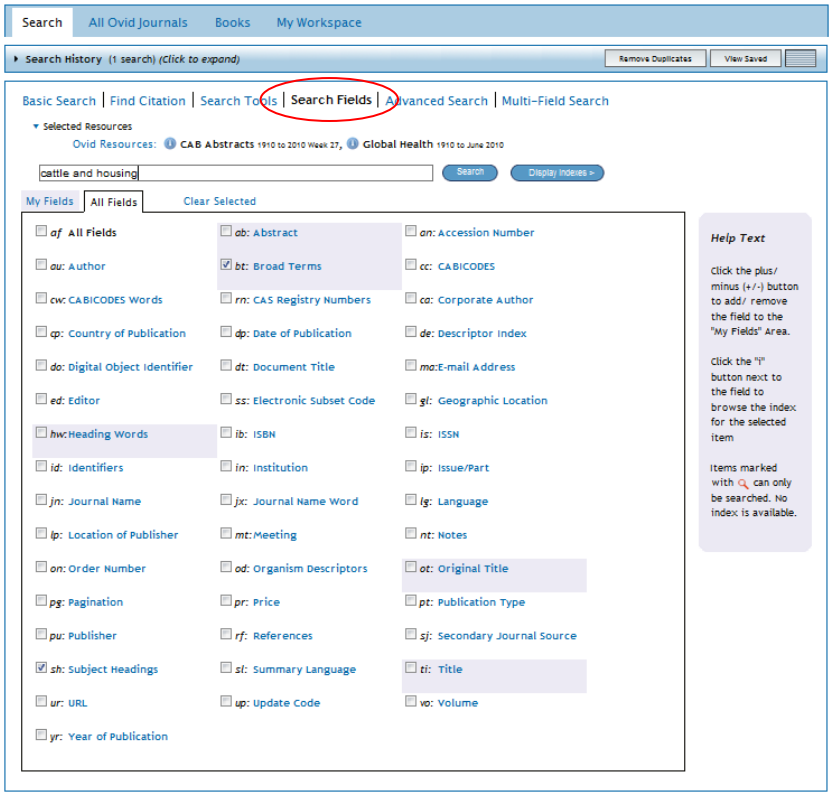


2. The second way of searching in a specific field is to include the field tag or tags, for the fields that you want to search, after the search term. The field tags should be surrounded by "stops" (.). If you wish to use more than one field tag, they should be separated by a comma (,). Here are two examples:

CATTLE.TI. AND (GENETIC$.TI. OR GENETIQUE$.OT.)

FOREST FIRE$.CW,HW.

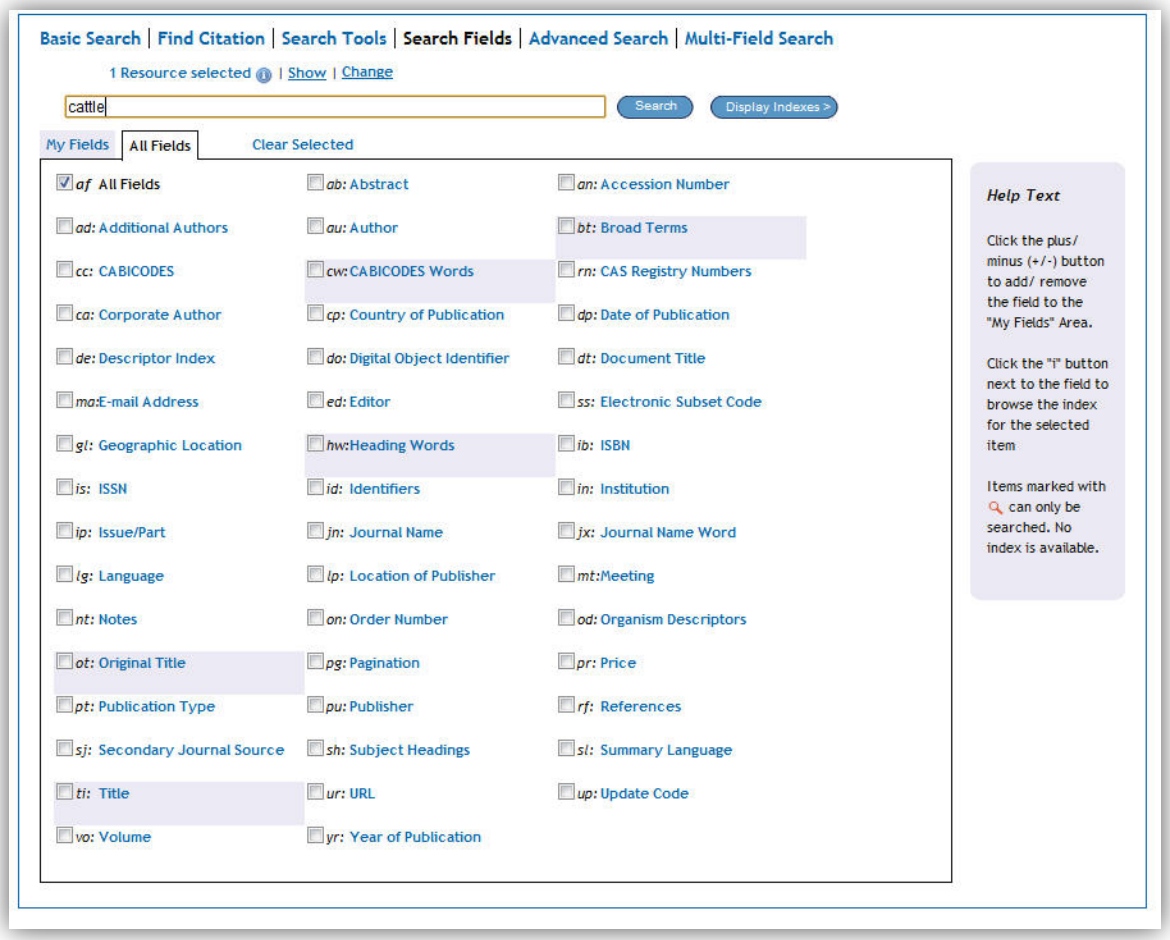
3. If you can't remember the field tags, the third way of field restriction is to choose the field tags from the **Search Fields** page which is opened by clicking on the **Search Fields** tab next to the **Advanced Search** screen tab as indicated below.



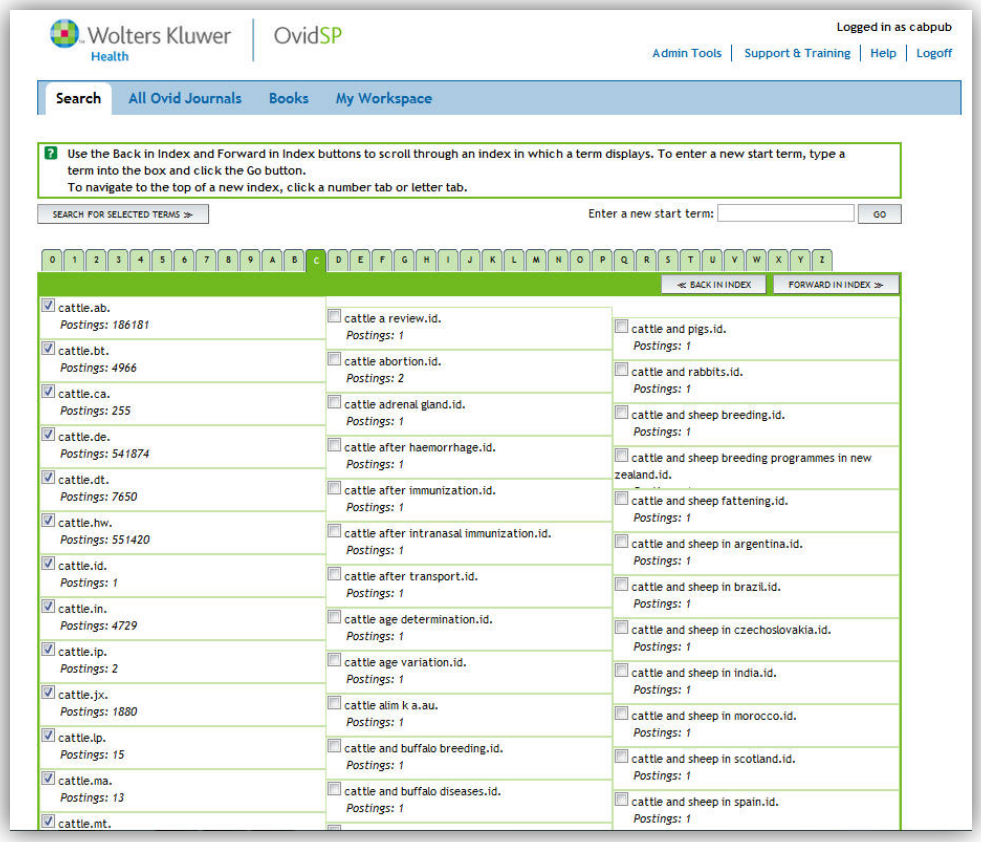
In the previous screen-shot, we have entered the search statement “Cattle and Housing” and chosen the **Broad Terms** field and the **Subject Headings** field. Clicking the Search button, will execute the search. In this example, the search will be restricted to records where both these two words appear in either the **Broad Terms** field and/or the **Subject Headings** field.

To see a description of the individual fields, and what they contain, click on the blue field name to display a small information screen.

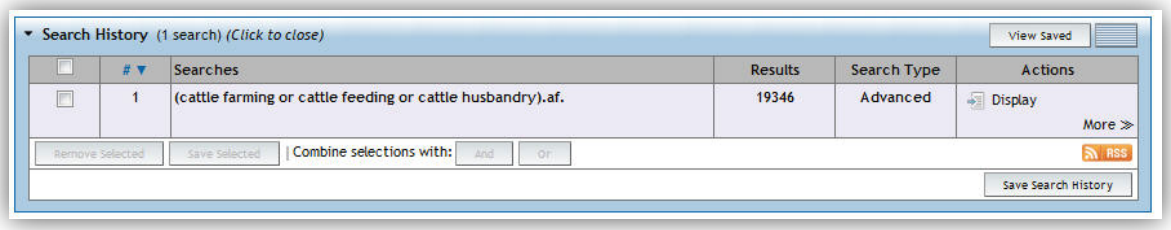
The **Search Fields** tab also allows you to display selected indexes in same way that you can view an index in a printed journal. Simply type in a term, select the index(es) to display, and then click the Display Indexes > button. In the example below, we have selected the **Subject Headings** field.



The system takes you to an alphabetical index of all the words and phrases, associated with the term that you typed, that appear in the indexes that you selected as seen in the screen below.

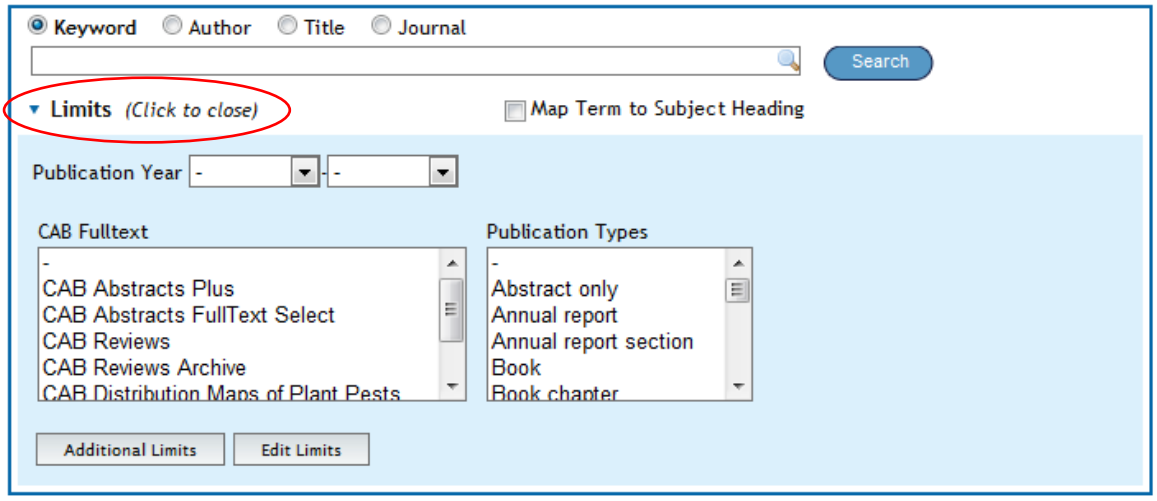


You can now browse the index or search for another term. Next to each term is a check box ☑ allowing you to select one or more terms from the list which can then be searched for, in the database, by clicking the SEARCH FOR SELECTED TERMS ≫ button, at the top of the screen. This action will search for the selected terms, within the CAB Abstracts database, using the OR operator. The following screen shot shows the result of selecting and then searching for **cattle farming or cattle feeding or cattle husbandry**.



Search Limits

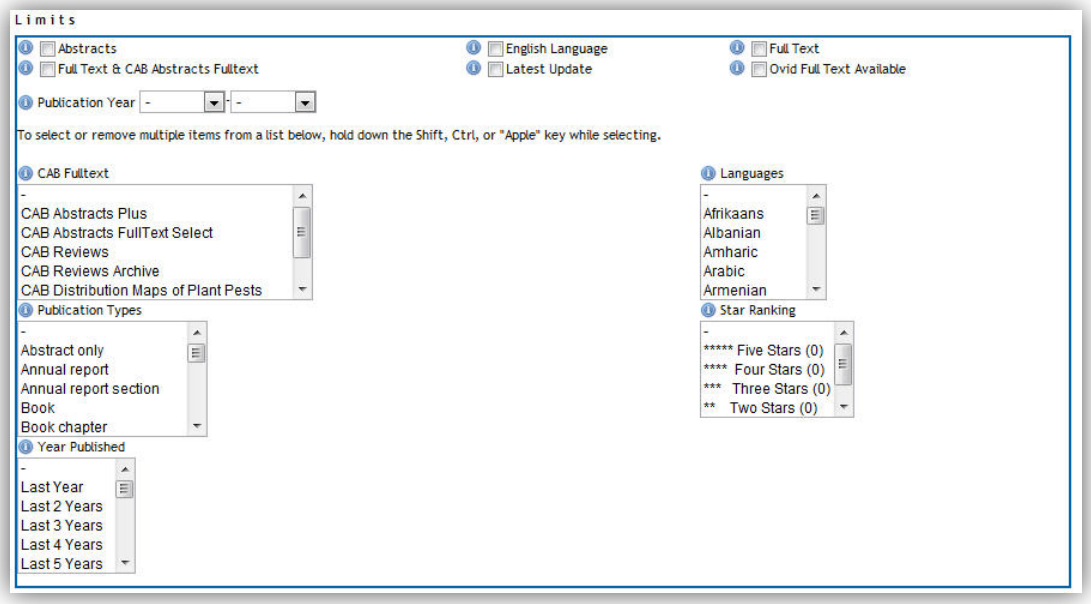
When using the **Advanced Search** mode, searches can be limited in a number of different ways, using the drop-down **Limits** box, located underneath the search box. Click ▸ Limits *(Click to expand)* to open the panel of options shown overleaf.



This screen allows you to **Limit** your search to records where the original article was published within a specified **Publication Year** range. You can also Limit the search to particular original **Publication Types** such as books, journal articles, reports, etc., by using the scrolling list of Publication Types.

If you subscribe to any of the CABI Full Text database, the content of which is abstracted and indexed in CAB Abstracts, you can limit your search to records from any of these databases listed under the **CAB Fulltext** heading. OvidSP will then provide links, from the database records, directly through the original article in PDF file format.

As well as these pre-defined limits, there are extra limits, accessible via the Additional Limits button. The following screen shot shows what is available.



The additional limits options include:

Limit option	**Description**
Abstract	limits to database records with abstracts
English language	limits to records for which the language of the original article is English
Full Text	limits to records with links to any available non-CABI Full Text
Full Text and CAB *Abstracts Full Text*	limits to any non-CABI Full Text plus records for original articles held in any of the CABI Full Text databases. Subscribers to any of these Full Text services will have seamless access, from the database, to the Full Text articles

Limit option	Description
Latest Update	limits to records from the very latest update to the database. Good for reviewing just the latest records
Ovid Full Text *Available*	Limits records with links to Full texts held by Ovid
Languages	limits to the language of the original Full Text. Select the language(s) from the scrollable list

Multiple limits can be selected from these lists by holding down the Ctrl key whilst making your selections.

Field Searching: Input fields

Title Fields

All CAB Abstracts records have an English Item title (TI). This is the English version of the title of the article that has been abstracted. Most of the original articles will be written in English, so the TI is usually the title of the original article. If the original article is written in a non-English language, the TI field will contain an English translation of the original title. Also, for non-English articles that are written in a "Roman" script, an original language title will be provided as the OT (Original Title) field. For example, you may see a French article with a French OT and an English translation of this title in the TI field. Titles are particularly useful when searching for a paper when all or part of the title is known and you are only looking for the additional bibliographic data and the abstract.

Author and Editor Fields

There are two types of Author; individuals, who are often referred to as personal authors, and Organizations like the World Health Organisation, who would be

referred to as Corporate Authors. Personal Authors are searched using the AU field.

I. Personal Authors (AU)

The AU field (Personal Authors) actually includes data from 3 separate fields. When CABI creates a record for a paper written by a personal author or authors, the policy is to include all the names of all the authors. When adding author's names to a record they are added as Family Name, First Initial. Second Initial.

e.g. Smith, T. A.

These are entered into the Author Field. Many author's names fit this format, but many do not. So, for names that do not fit this standard pattern, CABI will often include variations of an author's name in another field called Author Variants (AV). A third type of author entry, included in a small number of records, is the Additional Author (AD); an author that may have been mentioned only in the Abstract of the record. When searching CAB Abstracts with Ovid, all the personal authors and any variations of their names, are placed in the Author field (AU) for searching. So, when searching the AU field, you are actually searching three author fields (AU, AV and AD).

Where a paper has an Editor, the Editor's name(s) will also be added to the record using the same rules as applied to the Author field. The Editor name field is search using the field tag ED.

When searching in the AU and the ED fields, it is very important to remember that the names are indexed as complete phrases. What this means is that an author called Smith, T.A. will have his name indexed as **Smith T A** in the Author Index. What this means is that, when you are searching for authors or editors, you must search for the full names, as in the following example:

Smith T A.AU.

If you simply search for **Smith.AU.**, you will get no records because the word Smith will not appear on its own in the Author index.

If you do not know all the initials for a particular Author or Editor, you can use truncation as in the following two examples:

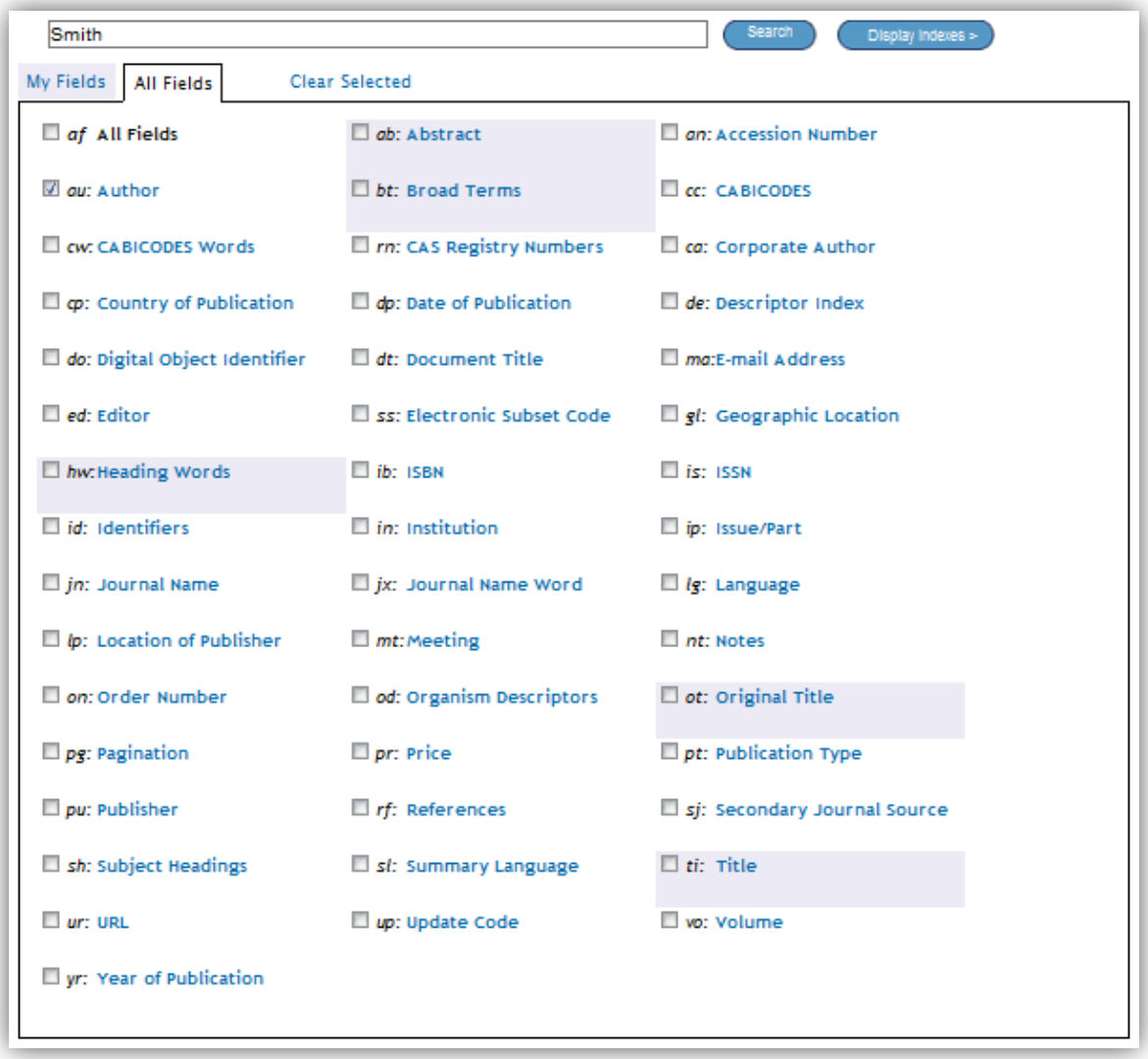
Smith T$.AU.

Smith $.ED.

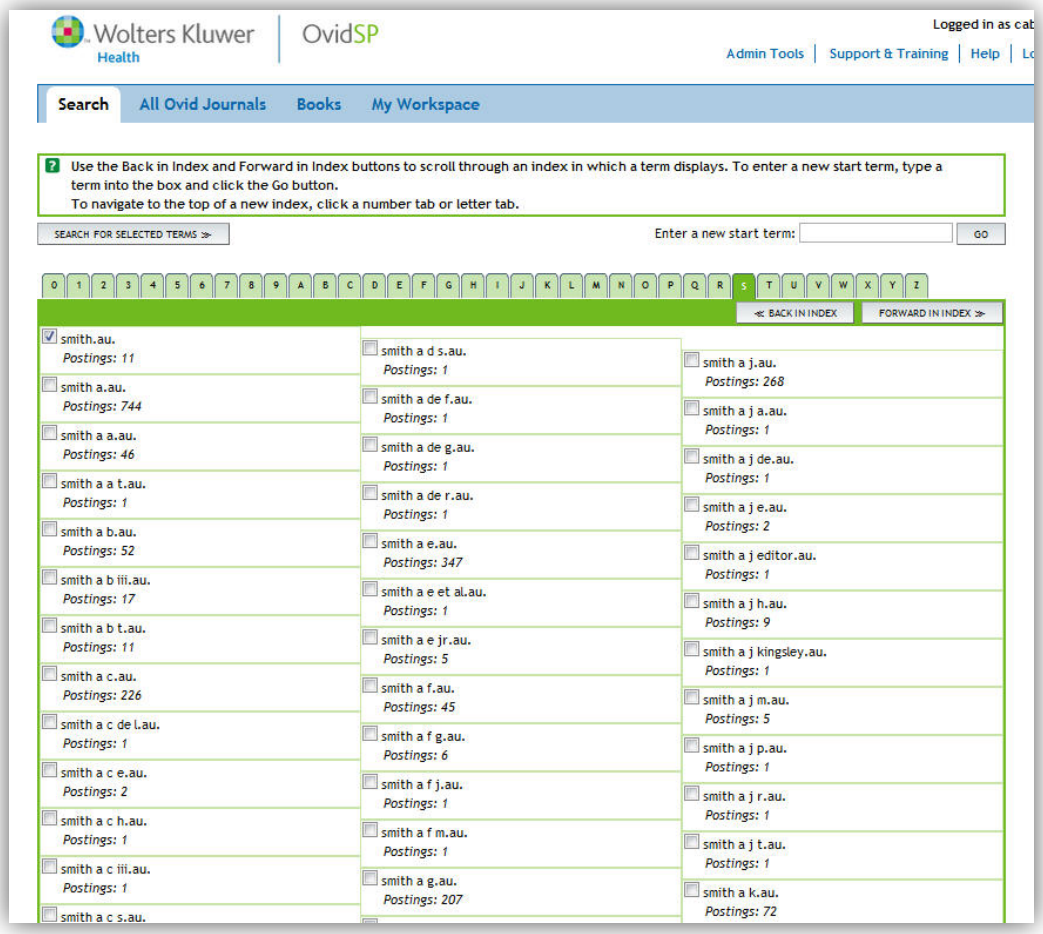
Note, if you truncate the Family name, as in the second example, remember to truncate after the space that follows the family name, otherwise you will get all the family names that start with Smith (e.g. Smith, Smithers, Smithson, etc.).

An alternative way to search would be use the Author Index display option. In the **Search Fields** screen, enter the family name of the Author you want to look up, select the **Author** field, as shown below, and click the

button.



The system will then display an alphabetical listing of all the entries in the Author field, as shown in the next screen shot. Simply select the relevant author names, by checking the box next to each name, and then click the SEARCH FOR SELECTED TERMS ≫ button, which will search for your selections, combined with the OR operator.



Note: Authors are indexed as complete phrases so, when searching for an author (or editor), remember to search for the complete name or use truncation.

For example:

Smith AJ.AU.

Smith A$.AU.

II. Corporate Authors:

The names of organizations that publish papers are entered in to the Corporate Author field (**CA**). This is searched using the CA field tag:

world health organization.CA.

WHO.CA.

Because it is not possible to apply strict rules for adding Corporate Authors to a record, it is often necessary to search for several variations as in the above example. This search could have been done as a multi-term search using the **OR** operator.

(world health organization OR WHO).CA.

If you are searching for a lot of terms, this use of brackets is a handy tip that can save time.

Index Terms or "Descriptors"

If you are looking only for important papers on a particular subject, where you want a high level of relevance, you should restrict your search to one or more of the CABI indexing or descriptors fields. Every record on the database is indexed with terms that describe all the important concepts within a paper. The index terms maybe added to one of 5 different indexing fields. The indexing fields that CABI uses are:

Organism Descriptors (OD)

Geographic Location (GL)

Subject Headings (SH)

Broad Terms (BT)

Identifiers (ID)

All the terms appearing in the Organism Descriptors, Geographic Locations, Subject headings and Broad Terms fields are controlled by the CAB Thesaurus, CABI's controlled indexing authority. The advantage of having a controlled vocabulary is that users need only use one term to search for a concept rather than using lots of terms. The **Organism Descriptors** field is used for animal and plant names, the **Geographic Location** field is used for country and other geographic names and the **Subject Headings** field is used for all the "other" terms that are neither animal, plant nor geographic. The entries in these three fields are added to the records manually by the CABI Indexers.

Note: Because CAB Abstracts is a scientific database, it is very important to remember that most animal and plant concepts will be indexed with their scientific names. All animals, except for commonly managed livestock like Cattle, Sheep, Goats, etc., are indexed with their scientific names. For example, if you want to search for papers about Beetles, you would need to search for the scientific name **Coleoptera**, rather than Beetles. However, plants are indexed with both their scientific and their common names, so the searching of plants is often easier.

In general, index terms are added specifically to a concept within a paper. If a paper is a general paper about Beetles, for example, it will be indexed with the Organism Descriptors term **Coleoptera** but, if the paper is about a specific beetle species, it will be indexed with the species name and not the word Coleoptera. In the past, this policy has made searching for broad concepts like "beetles" very difficult because, in order to find every record, the user needed to search not only for Coleoptera but had to include all the specific names of individual beetles. This is clearly a difficult if not impossible task.

The problem was solved several years ago when CABI began using the CAB Thesaurus to add additional index terms, automatically, to a new field called the **Broad Terms** field. Because the CAB Thesaurus is hierarchically structured, all the terms are included in a hierarchy with all their broader terms above them and all their narrower terms below them. Since 1984, the electronic CAB Thesaurus has been included in the database production system and has been used to automatically add broad terms from the CAB Thesaurus to the Broad Term field. This is only done for animal names, plant names and geographic terms, i.e. all the terms that appear in the **Organism Descriptors** field and the **Geographic Locations** field. If we take our example of Coleoptera, what this means is that every time a beetle species name appears in the **Organism Descriptors** field the broader term **Coleoptera** is automatically added to the Broad Term (BT)

field. What this means is that a user can search for the term Coleoptera in the BT field:

Coleoptera.BT.

… and the system will retrieve all the records that have been indexed with individual beetle names.

Search examples:

Cattle.OD.

(France or Germany or Spain).GL.

Rice.OD. and Irrigation.SH. and South East Asia.BT,GL.

In a complex search, with lots of terms that may appear in different index fields as in the last example above, the Ovid software offers an extra field tag, **SU,** which combines the SH, OD and GL fields and searches them all at once. This can make life a little easier, as you don't have to remember which tag is used for which field. It can also reduce the amount of typing if you use brackets, as in the following example:

(Rice AND Irrigation AND South East Asia).SU.

The last indexing field, not yet mentioned, is the Identifier field (**ID**). This field is used for non-controlled index terms; terms that do not appear in the CAB Thesaurus. This field is important for papers that discus new concepts that, currently, do not have their own Thesaurus term. This would include new chemicals, new species, etc. The record has to be indexed with an appropriate term but, because it is not in the Thesaurus, this term can not be added to the SH, OD or GL fields. It would be rejected. Instead, it is added to the Identifier field where it can be searched using the **.ID.** tag. Clearly, if you are not sure

whether a term is an ID or a Thesaurus term, you need to search both fields. This is most simply done by searching as in the following example:

Chemical name.SU.

The ID tag is also included in the SU index.

An Important Note on Searching the CABI Indexing Fields

The CABI indexing fields may contain single words or multi-word phrases, such a “Multiple Drug Resistance”. OvidSP creates a number of separately searchable alphabetical search indexes to allow users to restrict their searches to one or a combination of these CABI indexing fields. It is very important to know which index field to search. When the searchable indexes are created, they can be built in one of two ways; “Phrase” indexed or “Word” indexed. Phrase indexing means that all the multi-word indexing terms are indexed as complete phrases so, when searching for a concept such as “Multiple Drug Resistance” you need to search for the exact phrase. If you simply search for the word “Drug” or the phrase “Drug Resistance” in a phrase indexed search index, you will not retrieve records indexed with “Multiple Drug Resistance”. Similarly, searching for Cattle will not retrieve Cattle Breeds. Phrase indexing can, on occasions, be very useful as it allows the user to be very specific. For example, if a searcher wanted to search of the index term Guinea but did not want Guinea Pigs, searching for GUINEA.DE. on OvidSP would restrict the search to records with just the term Guinea because the Descriptors Index is Phrase indexed.

In most cases, however, Phrase indexing is much too restrictive. Someone who is interested in Drug resistance, for example, is certainly going to want to see records about Multiple Drug Resistance. In order to be able to do this easily, we need to be able to search for individual words within index phrases. This can be done using a search index that has been Word indexed. OvidSP provides two such indexes; Subject Terms (.SU.) and Heading Words (.HW.). Both these search indexes are what we might call “combination” indexes as they comprise words from more than one CABI index field. The Subject Terms index includes all the individual words from the Subject Headings field, the Organism Descriptors field, the Geographic Locations field and the Identifiers field while the Heading Words index includes all the individual words from the Subject Headings field, the Organism Descriptors field, the Geographic Locations field, the Broad Terms field and the Identifiers field. Searching for a single word in either of these two search indexes will search for the single word entries as well as any multi-word term that contains the search term. So, if you search for DRUG.HW, for example, you will find records indexed with the word “Drug”, the phrase “Drug resistance” and the phrase “Multiple Drug Resistance

The following is a list of the searchable index fields on OvidSP with an explanation of how they work:

- **Descriptors (DE):** searches the indexing terms in the Subject Headings field (CABI's DE field), the Organism Descriptors field (OD) and the Geographic Locations field (GL). The search index is Phrase indexed, which means that searching for DRUG RESISTANCE.DE. or (DRUG AND RESISTANCE).DE. would not retrieve MULTIPLE DRUG RESISTANCE.

- **Geographic Locations (.GL.):** searches the Geographic Locations field. The search index is Phrase indexed so, searching for GUINEA.GL. will not retrieve PAPUA NEW GUINEA.

- **Organism Descriptors (.OD.):** searches the Organism Descriptors field. The search index is Phrase indexed so, searching for DEER.OD. will not retrieve RED DEER. Neither will searching (RED AND DEER).OD. retrieve RED DEER.

- **Subject Headings (.SH.):** searches the Ovid Subject Headings field which is the CABI Descriptors field (DE). The SH search index is Phrase indexed so, searching for BREEDS.SH. would not retrieve CATTLE BREEDS.

- **Identifiers (.ID.):** searches the Identifier field. The search index is Phrase indexed so, searching for BROWSING.ID. would not retrieve BROWSING BEHAVIOUR.

- **Broad Terms (.BT.):** searches the Broad Terms field. The search index is phrase indexed so, searching for MEDITERRANEAN.BT. will not retrieve MEDITERRANEAN COUNTRIES.

- **Heading Words (.HW.):** this is a "combination" search index that searches the Subject Headings field (CABI's Descriptors field), the Organism Descriptors field, the Geographic Location field, the Identifiers field and the Broad Terms field. The search index is word indexed so, searching for a single word or phrase will search for the exact term or phrase or any term of which the searched term is a part. Searching for CATTLE.HW. will retrieve CATTLE, CATTLE BREEDS, DAIRY CATTLE, CATTLE HOUSING, etc. Searching for DRUG.HW. or DRUG

RESISTANCE.HW. or (DRUG AND RESISTANCE).HW. will retrieve MULTIPLE DRUG RESISTANCE.

- **Subject Headings (.SU.):** this is also a "combination" search index that searches the Subject Headings field, the Organism Descriptors field, the Geographic Locations field and the Identifiers field. It doesn't include the Broad Terms field. The search index is word indexed and works in exactly the same way as the HW field.

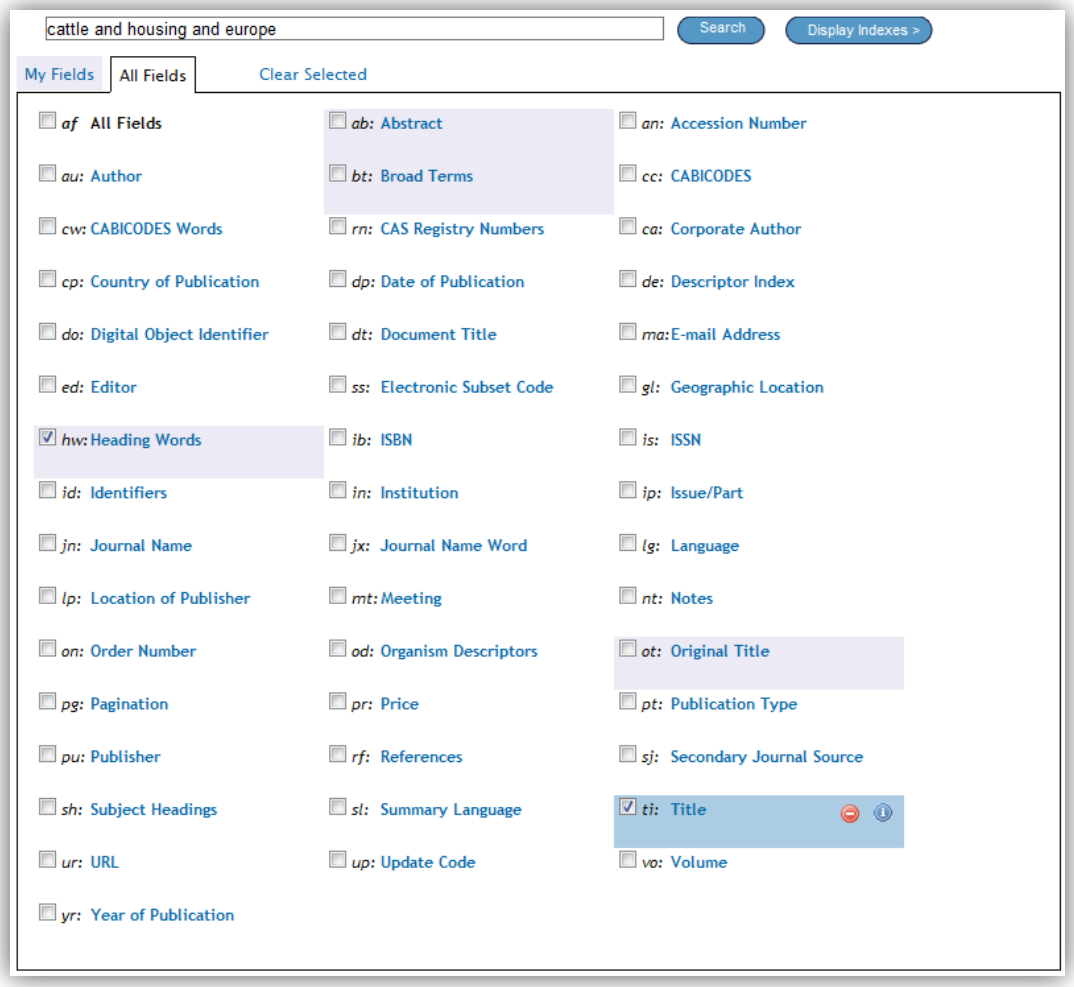
The recommendation for a search which will retrieve the most comprehensive search for relevant records is to search the Heading Words index.

Examples:

CATTLE.HW. AND HOUSING.HW. AND EUROPE.HW.

(DRUG RESISTANCE AND MALARIA AND AFRICA).HW.

Restriction to specific fields, including the CABI Indexing fields, can be performed through the OvidSP Search Fields page. Simple click on the Search Fields tab, enter your search statement, and choose the fields that you wish to restrict to. In the following example, we have restricted our search for "cattle housing in Europe**"** to the Title field (.TI.) and the Heading Words fields (.SH,OD,GL,BT,ID.).



CABICODES

In addition to adding index terms to a record, broad concepts are also “indexed” with a classification system known as CABICODES. The CABICODES are a hierarchical list of classification codes that divide the subject coverage of the CAB Abstracts database into 23 major sections. Each section then includes a series of codes that divides that subject into more specific subjects. The codes themselves are typically used to code for subjects which would be difficult to describe with keywords alone. The area of Forestry, for example, has its own set of codes as shown overleaf.

KK000 Forestry, Forest Products and Agroforestry (General)
KK100 Forests and Forest Trees (Biology and Ecology)
KK110 Silviculture and Forest Management
KK120 Forest Mensuration and Management (Discontinued March 2000)
KK130 Forest Fires
KK140 Protection Forestry (Discontinued March 2000)
KK150 Other Land Use (Discontinued March 2000)
KK160 Ornamental and Amenity Trees
KK500 Forest Products and Industries (General)
KK510 Wood Properties, Damage and Preservation
KK515 Logging and Wood Processing
KK520 Wood Utilization and Engineered Wood Products
KK530 Chemical and Biological Processing of Wood
KK540 Non-wood Forest Products
KK600 Agroforestry and Multipurpose Trees; Community, Farm and Social Forestry

All database records have at least one CABICODE but, according to the coverage, two or more codes are common. The codes are added in addition to the index descriptors already described, not instead of them. The CABICODES can be searched just like any other keyword, but using the tag **CC** as in the following examples:

KK160.CC. AND urban development.HW.

KK$.CC. AND Management.HW. AND Europe.BT.

Note the use of truncation in the second example. The CABICODEs also have associated headings, as shown in the list given above. These headings can be separately searched using the field tag **CW.** A full list of the CABICODE Headings can be found on the Tools page under the "Tools". Simply select the Classification Codes option from the drop down list and click the Search button. This will display a hierarchical list of CABICODE Headings from which the relevant headings (and thus the codes) can be selected and searched. The hierarchies can be expanded and multiple headings can be selected and combined using either AND or OR logic. Simply click the "Continue" button to perform the search.

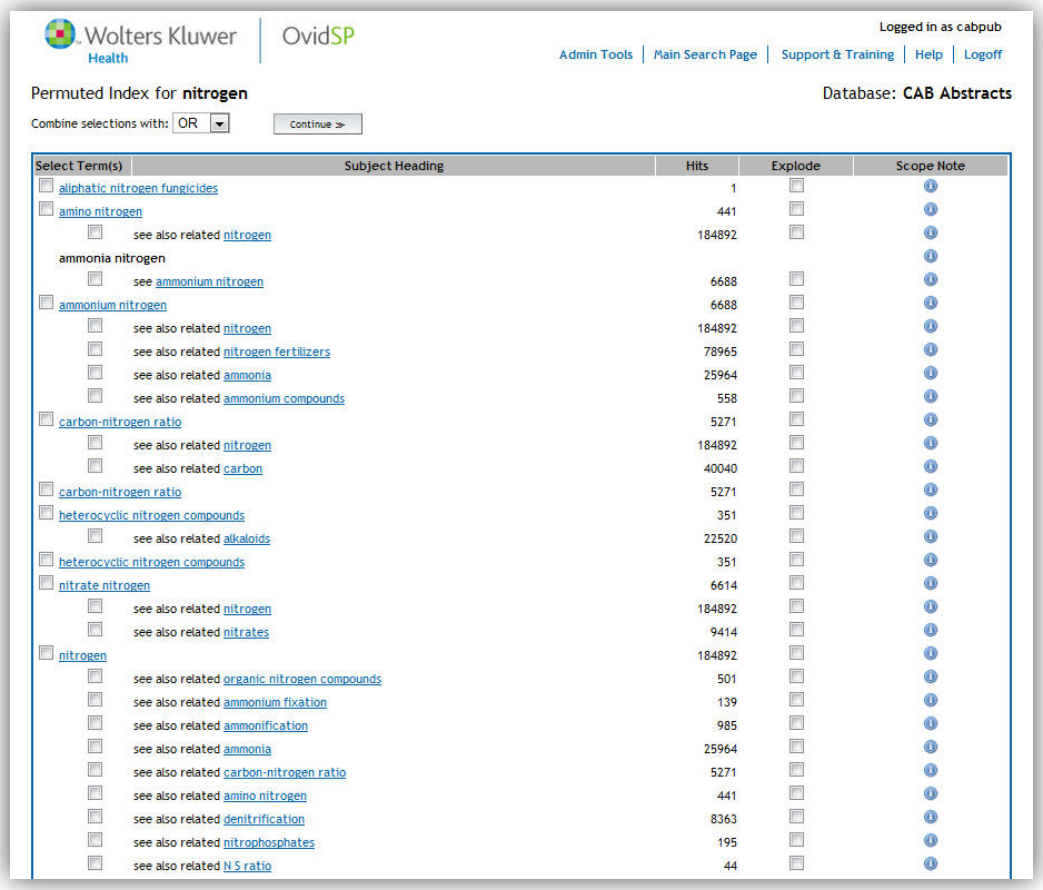
The "Explode" function will automatically select the narrower headings from a hierarchy, and add them to your search. Note that, when searches are

performed in this way, it is the CABICODES and not the Headings that are displayed in the Search History.

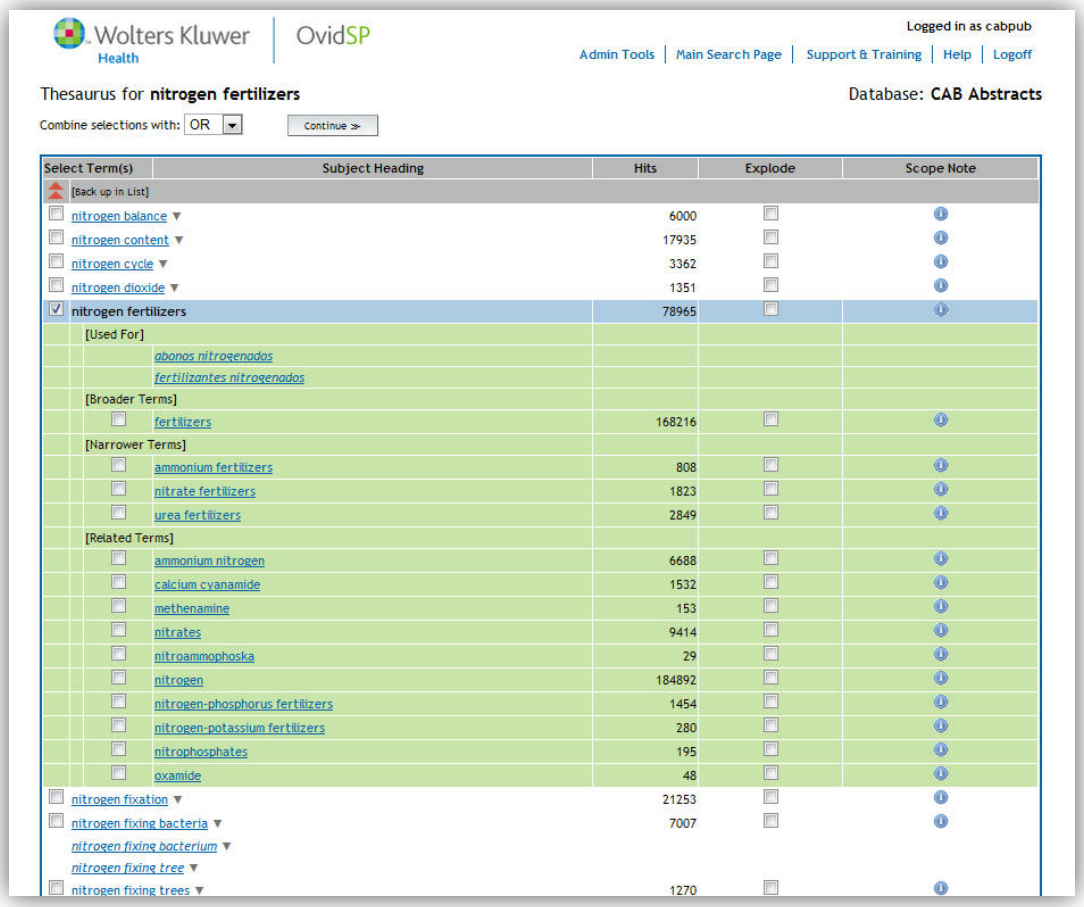
The CAB Thesaurus

The CAB Thesaurus is provided as one of the options on the Tools page. You can use it to check for the correct terms to use in your search profile. You can also use it to automatically select terms and add them to your search. To browse the CAB Thesaurus, simply click on the “Search Tools” tab and choose one of the four Thesaurus options (Thesaurus, Permuted Index, Scope Note or Explode). “Permuted Index” is probably the most useful option. Selecting “Permuted Index” will allow you to enter a word of interest from which you can display a list of all the Thesaurus Terms that contain that word. You can then scroll though this list until you find a term in which you are interested, Nitrogen Fertilizers, for example, and this term’s hierarchy can then be displayed by clicking on the term. An example of the display is shown below.

Here, we are looking the term Nitrogen in the Permuted Index



In this example, we have searched for the word “Nitrogen” and we see a list of the CAB Thesaurus terms that contain that word. Let us assume that we are interested in seeing more detail for the term “Nitrogen Fertilizers”. If we click on “Nitrogen Fertilizers”, OvidSP will take us to a display of the Nitrogen Fertilizers Thesaurus hierarchy, as shown below.

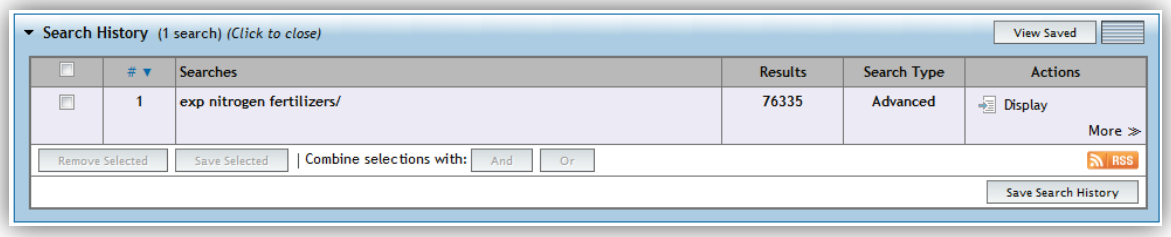


We now see the term “Nitrogen Fertilizers” and its Thesaurus hierarchy, one level up (Broader Terms) and one level down (Narrower Terms). We also see a list of Related Terms. The display also shows us the number of records in the database that contain these displayed terms. If we want to look at any of these terms, in more detail, we can click on any of the terms of interest to see their hierarchies. However, in this example, let us assume that we want to search for the term “Nitrogen Fertilizers” as well as all its Narrower Terms. To do this, check the box to the left to the term Nitrogen Fertilizers and then check the “Explode” box to the right of Nitrogen Fertilizers, as shown in the previous screen shot.

Although the display only shows one level of hierarchy up and down, the Explode function tells OvidSP to search for all the Narrower Terms for the term selected.

Terms may have multiple levels in their hierarchy, up to a total of seven up and seven down. The Explode function selects all Narrower levels, not just one.

Multiple selections can be made from the list. Once the selections have been made, choose the Combine function that you wish to use from the drop-down choice of AND or OR. The default is OR, the most commonly used, and this option will create a set of records containing one, more or all of the searched terms. The result of our “Explode” Thesaurus search is shown below.

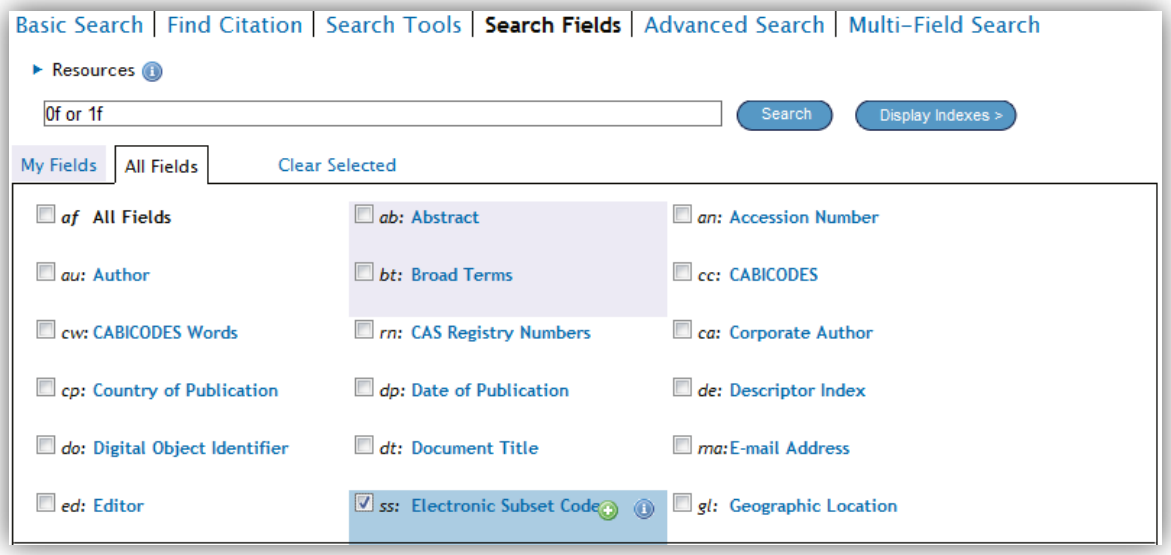


CABI Electronic Subset Codes

We have looked at the CABI indexing fields and the CABICODES fields which are used for indexing and classifying key concepts within an original document. There is one other way that CABI database records are coded, and that is through the Electronic Subset Code field, SS on OvidSP. This can be a powerful search tool. Like the CABICODES, the subset codes can be used to search for broad subject concepts as they correspond, in many cases, to subject specific subsets of the CAB Abstracts database such as Horticulture, Plant Pathology, Forestry, Irrigation and Drainage, etc.

A full set of these CABI Subject Codes (known as Electronic Subset Codes on OvidSP) can be downloaded from the User Guides pages on the CABI Web site at: http://www.cabi.org/Uploads/File/User%20Guides/cabisubjectcodes.pdf . These two character codes are searched in the Electronic Subset Code field either using the **.SS.** field tag, as in the example **(0F or 1f).SS.** or they can be searched for in the OvidSP **Search Fields** page by entering the code or codes

and selecting the **Electronic Subset Code** option, as shown in the following screen shot.



Theses codes can be used in the same way as keywords or CABICODES. They can be used on their own, or they can be combined with keywords and CABICODES to form a more complex search statement.

For example:

(0F or 1F).SS. and (Environmental Management and USA).HW.

0F and 1F are the codes for Forestry and Forest Products.

CABI Full Text Linking

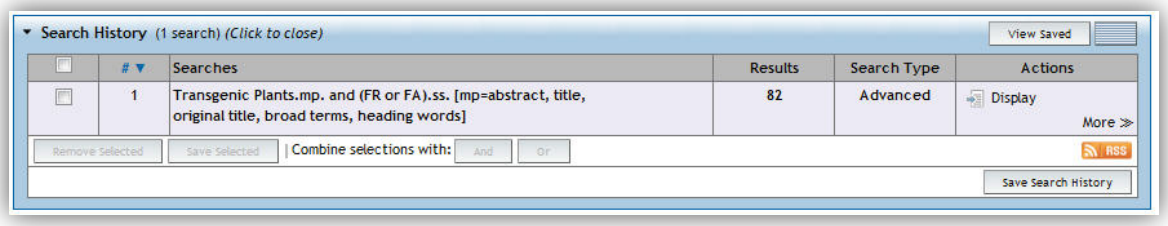
In addition to the CAB Abstracts and Global Health bibliographic databases, CABI publishes a range of Full Text databases and Electronic Books. Details of these services can be found on the CABI Web site at the following page:

http://www.cabi.org/default.aspx?site=170&page=1029

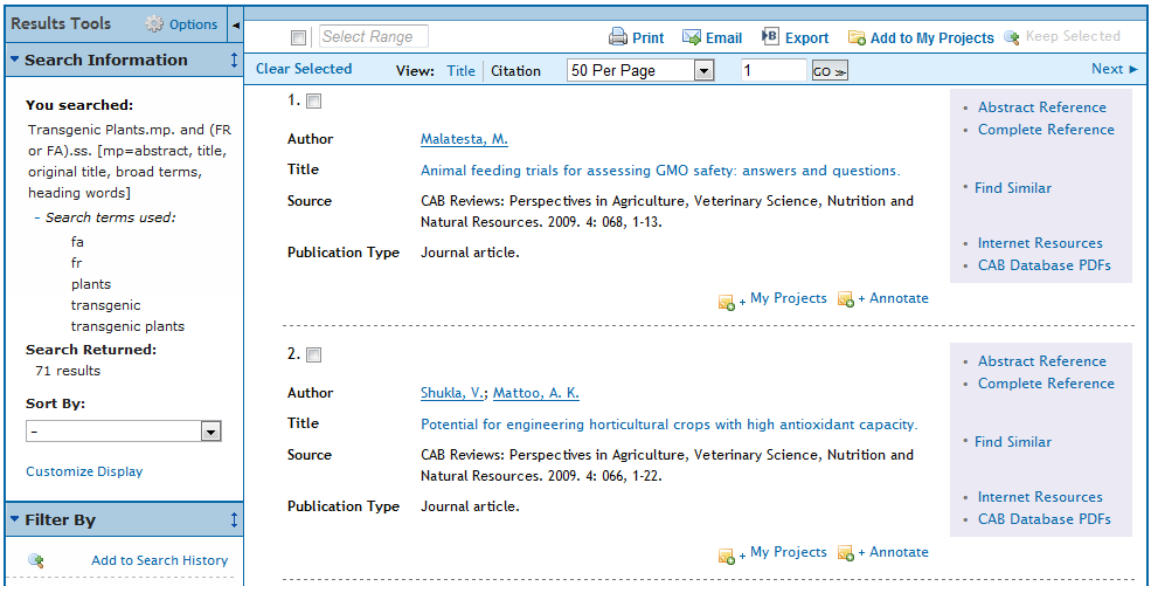
All the individual articles, published in these full text services, including CABI e-Books and individual CABI e-Book chapters, are abstracted in the CAB Abstracts database, which means that they are easily accessible to users who also subscribe to CAB Abstracts. If a search of CAB Abstracts retrieves a record to a CABI Full Text document, users will see a CABI Full Text button which, if they have a subscription to that Full Text service, will take them directly to the PDF file. The Electronic Subset Codes can also be used to restrict a database search to records with links to specific CABI Full Text services. For example, if a database user wishes to restrict a search for records on Transgenic Plants to records in the CABI Reviews full text services, they could search for:

Transgenic Plants and (FR or FA).SS.

Where the codes FR and FA code for the CAB Reviews Current file and the CAB Reviews Archive file, respectively.

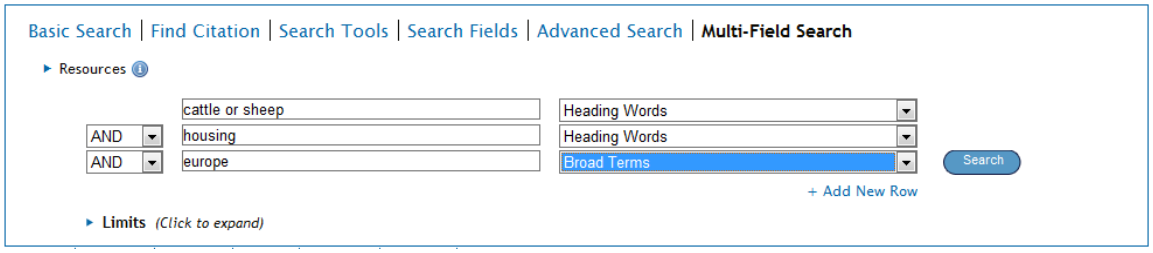


The search has retrieved 82 records, from CAB Abstracts, each of which with a link through to the Full Text of the Review Article, as can be seen in the screenshot overleaf.



Note the link, to the right of each record, which will link Reviews subscribers, directly to the CABI Review article.

Multi-Field Searching



Ovid also offer a **Multi-Field Search** screen, shown above, that allows the user to enter multiple search terms and field tags, and combine those terms into a complex search statement linked with Boolean operators. Additional lines can be added to the search screen for more complex searches. This search mode can save a lot of time, but requires some thought when creating the search statement.

This is the end of this OvidSP Advanced Search tutorial. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Chris Ison, CABI's International Training Manager, who will be happy to help or to offer free, individual, online tuition. Contact Chris by e-mail, to c.ison@cabi.org, or by phone to +44 (0)1491 829286.