

Search Tips for Ovid databases (CAB Abstracts, FSTA, Agricola, Agris, Medline...)

Do not use Basic Search, which is too simple and not suitable for serious literature search in the databases. Instead use the Advanced Ovid Search.

Operators in Advanced Ovid Search

OR

Searching for: *swine or pig* will retrieve references to journal articles or books containing either the word *swine* or the word *pig* (or both words).

AND

Searching for: *salmonella and cattle* will retrieve references containing both the word *salmonella* and the word *cattle*

NOT

Searching for: *pig NOT guinea pig* will retrieve references only with *pig* but the word *guinea pig* is excluded from the results.

Parentheses ()

Searching for: *salmonella and (swine or pig)* will retrieve references containing the word *salmonella* and either the word *swine* or the word *pig* or both words.

ADJn (n is a number between 1 and 99)

Searching for: *obesity adj2 sugar* will retrieve references containing *obesity* within 2 words of *sugar* (in any order).

Searching for: *obesity adj3 sugar* will retrieve references containing *obesity* within 3 words of *sugar* (in any order).

Phrases

Searching for: *organic acids* will retrieve references containing the words *organic* and *acids* next to each other (i.e. as a phrase).

Truncation – wildcards

? = 0-1 character

Searching for: *flavo?r* will retrieve references containing the word *flavor* or the word *flavour*

Searching for: *pig?* will retrieve references containing the word *pig* or the word *pigs*.

*** = 0-more characters**

Searching for: *pig** will retrieve references containing the word *pig*, *pigs*, *piggery*, *piggeries*, *piglet*, *piglets*, *pigeon* or *pigeons* etc.

Searching for: *functional food** will retrieve *functional food*, *functional foods*, *functional foodstuff*, *functional foodstuffs*.

Search limits

Limit a search to title, heading words or to other search field



If the Title button is selected, searching for *swine or pigs* will only retrieve references containing the word *swine* or the word *pigs* in the title of the article.

Searching for: *(swine or pigs).ti* will retrieve the same references as if you selected the Title button

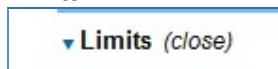
Searching for: *(swine or pigs).ti,hw* will retrieve references containing the word *swine* or the word *pigs* in the title (TI) and/or the heading words (HW) of the article.

If search number 2 was: *swine or pigs*, searching for: *2.ti* will retrieve references containing the word *swine* or the word *pigs* in the title of the article.



If you click **Search Fields** more search will appear to search in e.g. publication type (pt), abstract (ab) etc..

Limits



Limits apply to limit the search to e.g. specific **languages** or **publication years**.

Search Tools

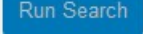


Search Tools provides different lists of subject headings, thesaurus, index.

Use Search Tools to find search terms, synonyms, similar terms and related terms.

Change database



Click Change to choose other Ovid databases and click Run search  to rerun the previous search in one or more databases at once.

Remove duplicates



When searching in multiple databases simultaneously, it is possible to remove duplicates by clicking Deduplicate. Unfortunately, not all duplicates are removed.