



Agricola via SilverPlatter

Agricola, updated monthly, is an agricultural and related science bibliographic database of records for materials acquired by the National Agricultural Library and cooperating institutions since 1970, providing worldwide coverage of the agricultural literature. Ninety percent of the records describe journal articles and book chapters; the remaining ten percent describe monographs, audiovisuals, maps and other types of materials. Over 60,000 new records are added annually.

Accessing Agricola from the Electronic Databases web page opens Agricola to the main search window, which includes two areas: the top, a search page, is used for creating new search statements, and the bottom area begins with displaying search hints, then switches to displaying the search results or the session search history.

The screenshot shows the Agricola search interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with 'Search | SDI | Database Guide | Help | Logout'. Below this is a search box with tabs for 'Advanced', 'Thesaurus', 'Index', and 'Search History'. A dropdown menu 'How do I...?' is visible. The main search area contains three 'Terms:' input fields, each with a 'Combine Using:' dropdown (AND, OR, NOT) and a 'in (Terms anywhere)' dropdown. A 'Search' button is at the bottom left. Below the search area is a 'View databases being searched' section with a 'Change Display' button and a 'View databases being searched -->' dropdown. At the bottom, there is a 'Search' section with a 'Results Display Create SDI' button and a search history list showing '#1 (belgian blue)and(cattle or beef or bull? or cow?)' with a count of 95.

SEARCHING

- Enter a term or multiple terms (as a phrase or with the terms linked by the connectors *and*, *or*, *not*, *adj*, *with* or *near*), then click **Search**. All fields are searched for the terms input and the matching citations are displayed, with the number of records and the search statement close to the top.
- Specify the title, author (personal or corporate) or subject (descriptors DE, identifiers ID) fields by selecting the corresponding term in the Find terms: drop down box to the right of the search box and **Search**.

Note: Enter an author as last name, hyphen, and initial(s). Truncate after the hyphen if the initials aren't known; after the first initial if the author might use additional initials: *Travis-**

- Alternatively, authors, journal titles, and other specific fields can be searched using field codes. Type the word or phrase followed by 'in', then the two letter field code – "*Equine veterinary journal in so*" finds the phrase in the source field, while "*horse breeding in de,id,ti*" searches for the phrase in the descriptor, identifier and title fields. Complex search statements can be created this way: "*(Equus-? or horse?) in id,de and (sperm or semen) and (fertil* or infertil*)*".
- For field code descriptions, click [Database Guide](#) in the top red bar.
- For help using field codes and building complex searches, click the [Advanced](#) tab at the top of the Search box. Fill in the Terms: boxes with the terms needed, select the field code(s) (hold down the Ctrl key while selecting more than one), choose *and*, *or*, or *not* to connect the words input in the different Terms: boxes, select limits (see below) if needed, then click Search. The matching citations display.

CONNECTORS, TRUNCATION, etc.

- * matches words that have the same beginning as the search term
- ? replaces one or no characters within or at the end of a word
- and results contain all terms connected
- or results contain at least one of the terms connected
- not results contain the first but not the second term
- adj results contain terms adjacent in exact order
- with results contain both terms in the same field
- near results contain both terms in the same sentence
- nearn results contain both terms within *n* number of words

- log*=log, logged, loganberry ...
- colo?r=color or colour ; eye?=eye, eyes
- actin and cytoskeleton
- coffee or tea or caffeine
- horse? not zebra
- horses adj bred ('horses bred' finds either order)
- Chinese with veterinary in so
- nutrition near tea
- chocolate near3 nutrition

Periods in text, commas, colons, apostrophes and question marks should be left out of search terms; treat a slash as a space.

LIMITING

To the right of the Search box is the phrase "No search limits set" or "Search limits are set" followed by the buttons, **Change** and **Clear**. The **Change** button opens the [Change Limits](#) page. The values selected here (years, languages, publication types, etc.) limit searches created while the settings are in place. The limits currently in place are displayed on the [Change Limits](#) page. Click the **Clear** button to discontinue limiting in future searches or the **Change** button to modify the limits.

INDEX

- Click the [Index](#) tab at the top of the search box to find any term anywhere in the database. For example, starting an author search in the General Index provides a list of potential names from which to choose. This also helps with journal titles and British spellings.
- Select a specific index such as Language or Update Code to browse terms in that specific field.

The screenshot shows the ERLWebSPIRS 5 interface. At the top, there are navigation tabs: Search, Advanced, Thesaurus, Index, and Search History. The 'Index' tab is selected. Below the tabs, there is a search box with the text 'POWLER' and a 'Go To Term' button. A table below shows the results for 'POWLER':

Term:	Number of Records
<input type="checkbox"/> POWLER-M	23
<input type="checkbox"/> POWLER-MA	4

DELETING, EDITING, COMBINING & SAVING SEARCHES

- To delete one or more searches, check the boxes next to them on the [Search History](#) page, then click **Remove**. The checked searches disappear and the remaining searches are renumbered.
- To edit a search statement, check the box next to it on the [Search History](#) page, then click **Edit**. The search statement is placed in the search box so that changes may be made to it. When done, click **Search**; the retrieved records are displayed.
- Searches are combined via two methods.
 1. Check the boxes next to the searches to be combined, then click the button for 'and' or 'or' under Combine and search. All sets chosen will be combined using the same connector and the retrieved records will be displayed.
 2. Enter the search set numbers using connector terms and parentheses. For example “((#1 or #5) and #2) not #3” combines records in either sets 1 or 5, then looks for records that are also in set 2, before removing those in set 3.
- Click the [disk](#) icon button on the Search History page to save all the search statements displayed (delete unwanted sets before saving). When requested, enter your personal ID and password, a title for the search strategy, and a date it will expire (this can be changed later). Click **Save History**. The [open file folder](#) icon button allows access to saved search strategies for use or modification

SEARCH RESULTS

- Upon running a search, the first ten retrieved records are displayed on a new page with the bibliographic citation, a link to the complete record and a UC-eLinks button. Click the UC-eLinks button for links to the full-text, Harvest or Melvyl catalogs, etc. Scroll down the page and use the arrow buttons to view additional records in the set.

Note: The retrieved record display page for any search statements opens from the [Search History](#) page as well.

- If only some of the records are of interest, check the box to the left of each. These records are remembered and additional records from other search sets can be added as well. To view these marked records, select the **Marked Results** from the Show: drop down box.
- The display format, if not appropriate for your needs, can be modified. Click the **Change Display** button at the top of the display portion of the page, which opens the [Change Display](#) page. Change the number of records displayed on a page, which fields to display, what form of field labels to use, and whether to sort or not. The final section modifies how the Search History displays.

The screenshot shows the 'Change Display' page. It has a red header with 'about ERLWebSPIRS 5' and 'Help Logout' buttons. Below the header, there are buttons for 'Save Records to Disk', 'Restore Defaults', 'Save', and 'Back'. A search box contains 'How do I...?'. The main content area has the following sections:

- Save these records:** Radio buttons for 'All Records (34580 records)', 'Record number: 1 to 10', and 'Marked records'. A checkbox for 'Clear marked records after they are saved' is checked.
- Save these fields:** A dropdown menu for 'Displayed Fields' and a 'Change Fields' button. Below it, a list of 'CURRENTLY SELECTED FIELDS' is shown.
- Also save:** Checkboxes for 'Search History', 'Record number and database name', and 'With word wrapping'. A dropdown menu for 'Field name with:' is set to 'Short labels'.

- Buttons for print, save and e-mail, displayed as a [printer](#), a [disk](#), and [letter](#) icons appear in all record display windows. Clicking one of these opens its respective page. Make selections for which records, which fields and the form of field labels to use, then click the **Print**, **Save** or **Mail** button.
- To import records to EndNote,

ProCite or Reference Manager, use a format that includes the publication type PT field ('Citation' for example), turn off Word wrapping, select Field labels: Short labels, and save or mail.