

Biological abstracts

Find it at: www.lib.monash.edu.au/databases/

Biological abstracts contains:

- references and abstracts of biological and biomedical research, covering agriculture, botany, biochemistry, bioengineering, biotechnology, environmental studies, genetics, microbiology and zoology
- over 5.5 million references from 1980 to the present
- indexing for more than 4,000 international journals, updated bimonthly.

Use Biological abstracts to find:

- up-to-date life sciences research from peer-reviewed journals
- a choice of search options:
 - Ovid Syntax for a comprehensive search result
 - Basic Search for a quick, relevancy-ranked search result
 - a focused search result using Search Fields, eg Concept codes, Taxa notes or Gene names
- an extensive range of Limits to help refine a search result.

Tips:

- When using Ovid Syntax search each concept separately and combine your searches, eg. type rainforest or rain forest to retrieve references containing either word.
- When using Ovid Syntax, type * to find variations of words, eg. conserv* retrieves conservation, conserve, conservationist.
- Use the Results Manager to save your references as a text file, an email message or to an EndNote library.
- Click the Database Field Guide or the Help links at the top of the screen for extensive online help.

Look for similar information in:

- Environmental sciences and pollution management
- Ovid MEDLINE
- Scopus
- Web of Science
- the Databases page for Biological Sciences.

Biological abstracts looks like this:

The screenshot displays the OvidSP interface for Wolters Kluwer Health. At the top, there are navigation links for 'Database Field Guide', 'Display Knowledge Base', 'Help', and 'Logoff'. Below this, there are links for 'Change Database', 'Journals', and 'Books', along with 'Saved Searches/Alerts' and 'Personal Account'. The current database is 'Biological Abstracts 1980 to December 2007'. The search interface includes tabs for 'Basic Search', 'Find Citation', 'Search Tools', 'Search Fields', and 'Ovid Syntax'. The search input field contains 'rain forest*' or 'rainforest*' and shows a search button. A 'Limits' section is expanded. The search history shows one search for 'conserv*.mp.' with 297425 results. A 'Search Aid' section provides search terms and narrow search options. The results manager shows the first result: 'O'Reilly, Catherine [Author]. Molecular sex identification of five mustelid species [Article]. Zoological Studies. 46(5). SEP 2007. 600-608.' with options to view the abstract, complete reference, or check for full text.

OvidSP Tip
Quickly learn how OvidSP performed your search with new Search Aid that shows search terms, synonyms, and spelling variants.

More help from the Library:

Visit www.lib.monash.edu.au/help/ or

- call +61 3 9905 5054 or 1800 331194 (toll free outside Melbourne)
- go to ask.monash at ask.monash.edu.au
- ask at the information desk at your nearest library. Check hours and locations: www.lib.monash.edu.au/libraries/
- log in to online chat via the Library's website.