

CAB ABSTRACTS

Useful Tips

1. A **topic field** search looks for your term(s) in the following fields within a record.
 - TITLE
 - ABSTRACT
 - SUBJECT HEADINGS (descriptors, identifiers, geographic locations)
2. The **asterisk (*)** represents any group of characters, including no character, and can be used to search all fields that allow words and phrases, not numbers. It may be used inside or at the end of search terms -- but not at the beginning. When you search by Topic or Title, you must use at least three characters before the asterisk or your search will generate an error. When you search by any other field (except the Topic and Title fields), you must use at least one character before the asterisk or your search will generate an error.
3. You can use **AND** in the Topic field, but not in the Publication Name field.
4. To search for an **exact phrase**, enclose the phrase in quotation marks. For example, "energy conservation" retrieves records that contain the exact phrase *energy conservation*. This applies only to Topic and Title searches.
5. Use **parentheses** to group compound Boolean statements. For example:

(chocolate OR cocoa) AND (sugar OR sweetener)
6. **Apostrophes** are treated as spaces, not searchable characters. Be sure to search for variants with no apostrophe.
7. Search for **hyphenated words** and phrases by entering the terms with the hyphen. For example, ice-cream finds records containing ice-cream and ice cream.
8. **Capitalization** does not matter: use upper, lower, or mixed case. For example: AIDS, Aids, and aids
9. **Mark records** by selecting the box next to the record. All marked records are automatically added to your "Marked List" of records when you move to the next page of records.
10. Access your **Marked List** of records for printing, emailing, or downloading by clicking on the "Marked List" link near the top of any CAB Abstracts page.