

Search using an EBSCO Database

This guide provides you with step-by-step instructions on how to do a basic search using an EBSCO database.

What is EBSCOhost?

EBSCOhost is a premium information resource from which we license a number of databases including: Academic Search Premier, Agricola, Biological & Agricultural Index, America: History & Life, CAB Abstracts, Library and Information Science & Technology Abstracts with full text and New Scientist Archives.

Who can use the EBSCOhost Databases?

All current NSAC students, faculty and staff may use the EBSCOhost databases on and off campus. Members of the public may only use the databases at the public computers in the MacRae Library.

Is there Full Text?

Yes, there is full text for many articles.

Step 1: Where to Find it

There are many ways to get to EBSCOhost or to find the individual databases, but we recommend:

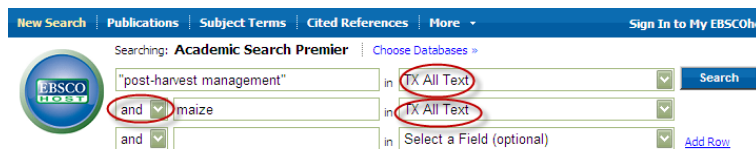
- MacRae Library Homepage:
<http://nsac.ca/library/FindInformation/articles.asp>

Select the database you wish to use and press "continue". For this example we'll select **Academic Search Premier**.

Problems? It may be because you are connecting from off-campus. If you are off-campus, you need to enter your NSAC Network ID and password at the prompt.

Step 2: Advanced Search

Academic Search Premier automatically defaults to Advanced Search. Type your keywords in the text box joined by AND, OR, or NOT. These words will help the database understand what you are and are not looking for.



Your keywords are generally chosen from the description of your research topic.

Here are 3 examples of searches:

- "post-harvest management" AND maize (**both words** must appear in the results)
- Corn OR maize (**one or both of the words** must appear in the results)
- Corn NOT candy (**first word** must appear in the results but **not the second word**)

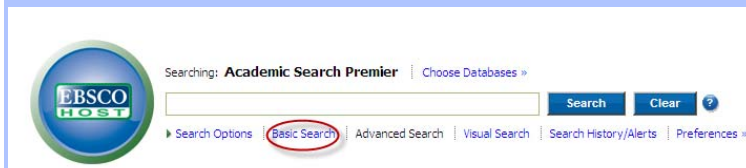
You can also limit your search by selecting various options in the drop down box such as Title, Author, All Text, Subject Terms and many more!

You can also use the search options to refine your search prior to starting your search.

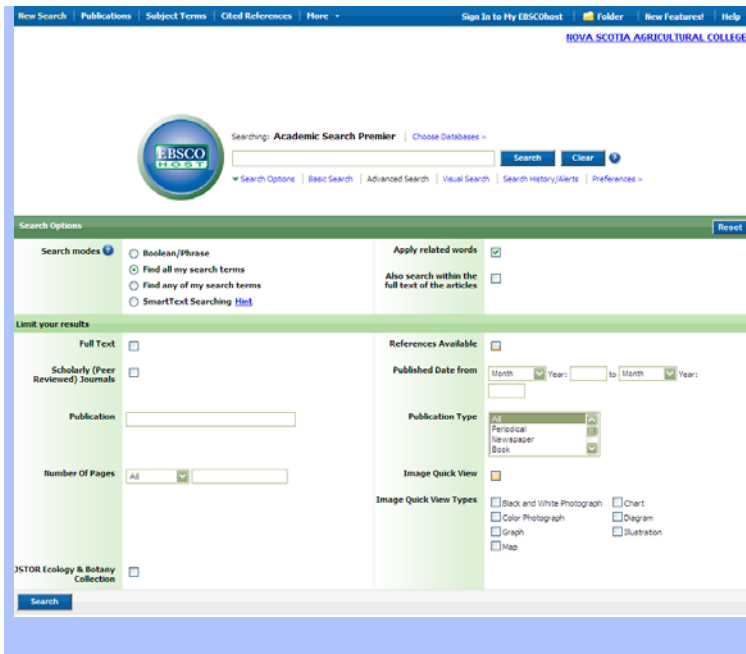
After describing and limiting your search in the drop down box, click **Search**.

Step 3: Basic Search

You may do a basic search by selecting "basic search" under the search options as shown below:



You may also add or remove your search options by click on the search tab. With the search options button activated, your screen will look like the one below:



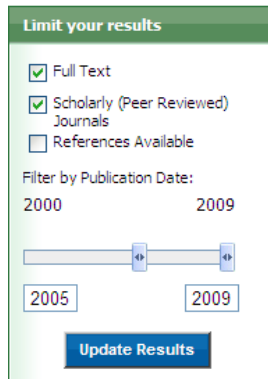
The process for refining your results is explained next:

Step 4: Managing Your Results

With your search results displayed, you can refine your results by clicking any of the search options on the left and right sides of the screen (refine by full text, scholarly (peer-reviewed), references available and by publication date):

You also have the option to refine your results by other methods on the left hand side of the screen. For example, you may refine your results by Source types, thesaurus term subject, subject, specific publication, company and so on.

In the Full Record view (when you click on the article's title), EBSCO will allow you to find similar results using Smart Text searching (on the right hand side).



Step 5: Getting Full Text

Sort through your results. Click on the title of the article to view more information about it including the abstract.

If full text is directly available in academic search premier, you will see a PDF full link or an HTML full link on the brief and full record. If no full text links are visible, you can click

[Find It@NSAC](#)

8. [Botrytis cinerea: the cause of grey mould disease.](#)
 By: WILLIAMSON, BRIAN; TUDZYNSKI, BETTINA; TUDZYNSKI, PAUL; VAN KAN, JAN A. L..
 Molecular Plant Pathology, Sep2007, Vol. 8 Issue 5, p561-580, 20p, 1 diagram, 2 color;
 DOI: 10.1111/j.1364-3703.2007.00417.x; (AN 26279547)
[PDF Full Text](#) (355KB)
[Add to folder](#) | Times Cited in this Database: (3)
[Find It@NSAC](#)

[Find It@NSAC](#)

After clicking on [Find It@NSAC](#), if full text is available you will see a list of databases to choose from. Click on "go to ..." to be linked directly to the database.

Problems?

If you have trouble accessing the article, try one of the other databases listed. If you still have problems, please contact us.

Step 6: Keep Track of Your Records

EBSCO's Academic Search Premier has several ways you can manage your records. As you sort through your results, you can **add** them to your personal folder in EBSCO (you must create a personal account first if you wish to save them).

In the full record view, click on the icons on top to:

- **Email, Print, or Save** your record
- **Add** the record to a folder in EBSCO
- **Export** records to reference software like **RefWorks**.

Only the record will be emailed to you, not the full text).

More Help?

For help with this and other databases, contact a library staff member at:

Phone: 893-6669

Email: library@nsac.ca