

Searching *Biological Sciences*

What is *Biological Sciences*?

Biological Sciences is a database of bibliographic citations and abstracts on a wide range of research in biomedicine, biotechnology, zoology and ecology, and some aspects of agriculture and veterinary science. It contains references to over 6000 journals, as well as conference proceedings, technical reports, and selected books, web sites, and patents. It contains materials from 1982 to the present.

How do I get to it?

From the library's homepage at www.usfca.edu/library

- Go to *Start Your Research*.
- Select *Biology* then *Journal and Newspaper Articles*.
- Click on *Biological Sciences* to begin your search.

Does it have the full text of articles?

Biological Sciences contains article citations and abstracts only.

- If there is no direct link to full text, click on **USF Find Full-Text** to find the full text of an article.

To Begin Your Search

Enter your keyword(s) and click *Search*. To search for a phrase enter the words in one box.

Searching Tips

To find peer-reviewed journal articles:

- Click on the *Peer-reviewed Journals* tab at the top of the results list.



To read the abstract of an article:

- Click on *View Record* at the bottom of the citation.

To reduce or expand your results:

- You will get different results depending on where you type your terms.



To find Subject Terms and refine your search:

- To check your terminology and get to details about subject terms, click on the *Search Tools* tab, then on the *Thesaurus* tab, then select the *Life Sciences Thesaurus* from the dropdown menu. Here you can browse for a term and get its broader, narrower, and related terms. Also make sure to look at the Descriptors found in each record to find other subject terms to use in your search.

The screenshot shows the 'Life Sciences Thesaurus (English)' interface. At the top, there is a dropdown menu set to 'Life Sciences Thesaurus (English)' and a 'Change Data' link. Below this is a search input field containing 'Wetlands' and a 'Go' button. There are three radio buttons for 'Alphabetical Index', 'Hierarchy', and 'Rotated Index'. The main content area is titled 'Life Sciences Thesaurus (English)' and includes links for 'Clear Marked Terms' and 'Remember Terms'. Under the heading 'Wetlands [+]', there are sections for 'Broader Terms' (with 'Environments [+]' listed) and 'Narrower Terms' (with 'Artificial wetlands', 'Bogs [+]', and 'Fens' listed). The 'Artificial wetlands' term is circled in red. Three callout boxes with arrows point to the interface: the first points to the dropdown menu, the second points to the search input field and 'Go' button, and the third points to the 'Artificial wetlands' term.

1. Select the Thesaurus here.

2. Type your subject here and click Go.

3. Find the correct subject term. Check the box next to the term to add it to your search.

How can I print or email my results?

- Check the box next to each citation you want to save.
- Click *Save*, *Print*, *Email* at the top of the results list.
- Select your preferences.
- Click on *Email*, *Save*, or *Print Preview*.

Questions?

- Click on **Help & Support** to learn more about *Biological Sciences*.
- Or contact Reference Services at (415) 422-2039 or at reference@usfca.edu