Tips on searching in Basic Search

Search tool	Example of search string in box	What that means to the database
* = "wildcard". Allows a partial letter string to be entered and implies either no or various extension on this letter string	Hyl*	Will find all uses of "Hyl . . ." anywhere in a record: e.g., *Hylarana, Hyla, Hylidae, Hylinae, Hylaedactyla.*
* = "wildcard". Allows a partial letter string to be entered and implies either no or various extension on this letter string	*Hyla	Will find all uses of ". . . hyla" anywhere in a record: e.g., *Hyla, Hylidae, Plectrohyla, Ptychadena hylaea, Adenomera hylaedactyla*
	Hyla	Will find all records that contain stand-alone uses of *Hyla*: e.g., *Hyla, Hyla arenicolor*
Strings of words without quotation marks	Lithobates pipiens	Interprets this as "Lithobates OR pipiens" so will find the union of all records that contain either "*Lithobates*" or "*pipiens*": e.g., *Lithobates omiltemanus, Hylorana pipiens*
Strings of word with quotation marks	"Lithobates pipiens"	Interprets this as "Lithobates AND pipiens" so will return all records that have the character string "*Lithobates pipiens*" anywhere within a record: e.g., all members of the *Lithobates pipiens* complex.
AND statement. Means that the results of the search must include both words held together by an AND	Lithobates AND pipiens	Same as "Lithobates pipiens"
OR statement. Means that the results of the search will all records that have either of the terms held together by an OR	Lithobates OR "Costa Rica"	Recovers all records that contain the word "Lithobates" *or* "Costa Rica": 402 records inasmuch as this will include all records for the entire amphibian fauna of Costa Rica
Combining Boolean operators within the Basic Search box (AND, OR, NOT, quotation marks)	Lithobates AND "Costa Rica" NOT forreri	Recovers only records that contain the word Lithobates AND "Costa Rica", but excludes any record that contains the word "forreri" in any part of the record: 9 records

Tips for using Guided Search

Search tool	Example of search string in box	What that means to the database
* = "wildcard". Allows a partial letter string to be entered and implies either no or various extension on this letter string	Hyl*	Will find all uses of "Hyl . . ." anywhere in a record: e.g., *Hylarana*, *Hyla*, *Hylidae*, *Hylinae*, *Hylaedactyla*.
* = "wildcard". Allows a partial letter string to be entered and implies either no or various extension on this letter string	*Hyla	Will find all uses of ". . . hyla" anywhere in a record: e.g., *Hyla*, *Hylidae*, *Plectrohyla*, *Ptychadena hylaea*, *Adenomera hylaedactyla*
Single word	Hyla	Will find all records that contain stand-alone uses of *Hyla*: e.g., *Hyla*, *Hyla arenicolor*
Strings of words without quotation marks	Lithobates pipiens	Interprets this as "Lithobates OR pipiens" so will find the union of all records that contain either "*Lithobates*" or "*pipiens*": e.g., *Lithobates omiltemanus*, *Hylorana pipiens*
Strings of word with quotation marks	"Lithobates pipiens"	Interprets this as "Lithobates AND pipiens" so will return all records that have the character string "*Lithobates pipiens*" anywhere within a record: e.g., all members of the *Lithobates pipiens* complex.
AND statement. Means that the results of the search must include both words held together by an AND	Lithobates AND pipiens	Same as "Lithobates pipiens"
OR statement. Means that the results of the search will all records that have either of the terms held together by an OR	Lithobates OR "Costa Rica"	Recovers all records that contain the word "Lithobates" *or* "Costa Rica": 402 records inasmuch as this will include all records for the entire amphibian fauna of Costa Rica
Combining Boolean operators within the Basic Search box (AND, OR, NOT, quotation marks)	Lithobates AND "Costa Rica" NOT forreri	Recovers only records that contain the word Lithobates AND "Costa Rica", but excludes any record that contains the word "forreri" in any part of the record: 9 records