

Alternatives Literature Search Request Form

U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Agricultural Research Service (ARS), National Agricultural Library (NAL); Animal Welfare Information Center (AWIC)

Last updated: May 2022

AWIC offers free [3Rs \(replacement, reduction, refinement\) alternatives](#) literature searching services to help determine if alternatives can be incorporated into an animal use protocol and/or whether the protocol unnecessarily duplicates previous research. Both areas of information must be submitted to the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee as required by the Animal Welfare Act (AWA) Regulations (*9 C.F.R. 2.31 (d)(ii-iii)(2022)*).

All individuals requesting a literature search from AWIC should complete and submit this form to awic@usda.gov. All requests remain confidential and are **NOT** shared with anyone outside of the AWIC team.

Principal Investigator: _____

Phone number: _____

Email address: _____

If possible, please provide your/the research protocol when submitting a literature search request. Providing the protocol ensures that we have sufficient information to complete a thorough literature search :

- If protocol is provided, only answer questions 9 – 12
- If a protocol is **not** able to be provided, please complete the **entire** form below:

1. Title of Animal Study Protocol:

2. General area of research: (e.g., cardiology, toxicology, lipid metabolism, immunology, etc.)

3. Type of protocol: Is the proposed study a research, teaching, or testing protocol?

4. Proposed animal species: (e.g., pigs, rats, dogs, primates, etc.)

9. List any keywords/terms related to your research/protocol that would be useful when conducting a search:

10. What databases have you previously searched? (Choose all that apply):

- Medline Biosis Agricola Biological Abstracts
 CAB Scopus Web of Science Zoological Record

Other(s) (write below):

11. What range of years would you like AWIC to search? (*We suggest including at least the past 10-15 years.*)

Database year(s): _____ to _____

12. Please provide the search strings previously used for this protocol below (if applicable):

AWIC will return literature search results within 10 business days from the day we confirm receipt of your request (unless otherwise noted). We will respond to let you know your request has been received. Please reach out to AWIC via email (awic@usda.gov) if you have any questions.