



## Working With Term Clusters in Gale Periodical Resources

**Term Clusters** is a new tool that recently became available in Gale periodical resources (also known as InfoTrac resources). Term Clusters visually organize results based on frequently occurring terms, allowing users to hone in on targeted topics, envision connections between topics, and create new paths of inquiry. Term clusters, or visual search results, allow users to discover the context of their search term and uncover hidden connections.

Users can now create term clusters after running a search or can click on the term cluster link from the homepage to create a cluster across all content within a resource. This guide will show you how to use Term Clusters with search results and as a search tool. We'll use *General OneFile* as an example; refer to page two of this document for a list of all periodical resources that use Term Clusters.

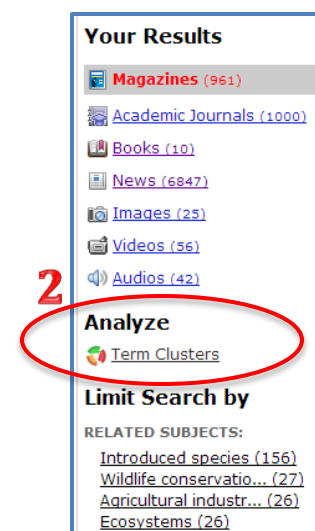
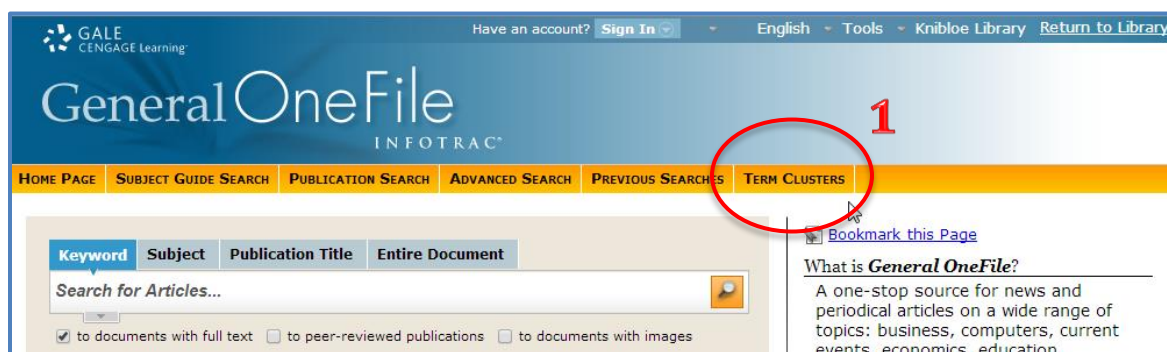
### Why Use Term Clusters?

- When users have a broad idea of a topic they want to investigate or are having trouble coming up with a research topic, they can click the term clusters search from the gold toolbar. After entering a general term, users will be presented with a term cluster that provides a wealth of potential topics.
- When a search provides a large number of results, users can click the link from the left hand sidebar into term clusters. Then users can use the inner and outer rings to hone in on more specific sets of results.
- Viewing a term cluster allows users to visualize research connections they may not have considered. For example, after running a term cluster, a user may uncover multiple topics on the inner and outer rings that can be compared to one another.

### Where Can I Find Term Clusters?

You'll find **Term Clusters** in two places in Gale periodical products:

1. As a search option in the gold tool bar.
2. Any search result screen; the link appears in the left hand sidebar with your limiting options.



### What is Term Clusters Analyzing?

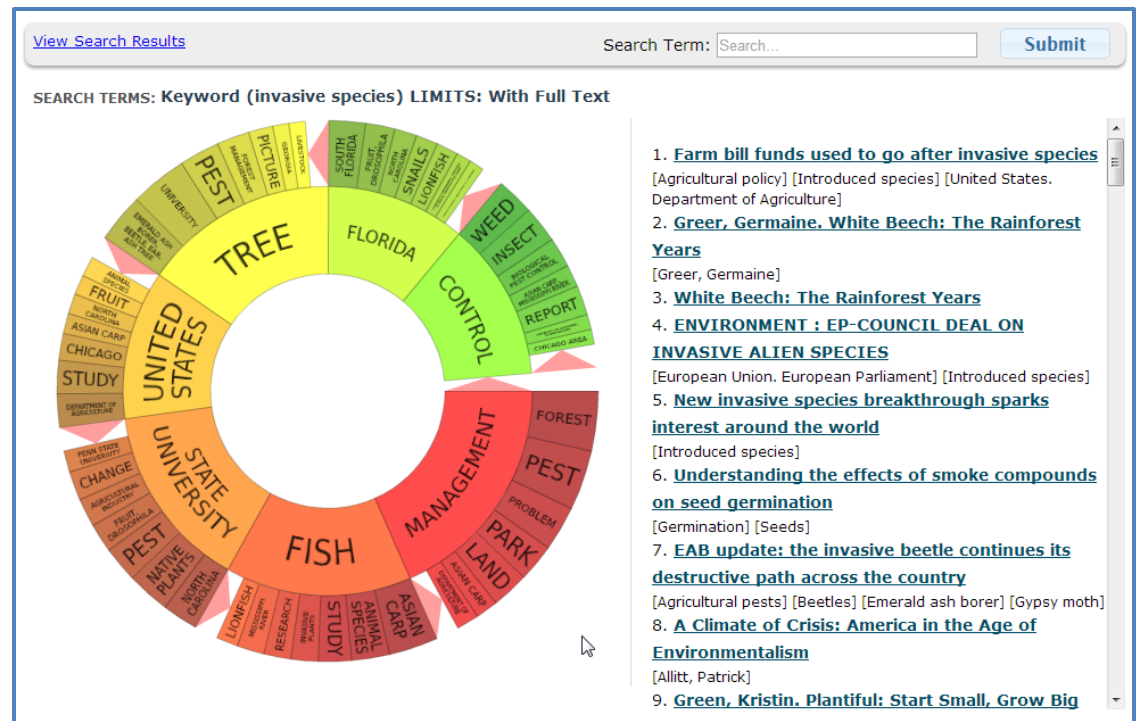
Term Clusters analyzes key aspects of results like the first 250 words of a full-text article, article titles, and subject headings. Citation only results are also evaluated.

The Term Clusters tool generates a visual representation of your results by topic and subtopic based on an analysis of frequently occurring and related terms. The inner rings represent popular topics related to your search; the outer rings feature topics related to the inner rings and narrow your focus. Click the pink arrows to expand the rings. The term cluster is also a heat map – darker reds and oranges are more popular terms than yellows and greens.

As users click around a Term Cluster, results on the right update dynamically, allowing for one-click access into relevant content. Simply click on an article to view it.

In the example to the right, we have a search on *invasive species*. Term Clusters can help us narrow that topic. Terms in the cluster are helpful as they show that invasive species can be used with animals as well as plants (FISH, TREE). We can see in the outer ring of the fish segment ASIAN CARP is an important term. Following that topic into articles reveals that Asian carp are a particularly notorious invasive species in the United States and are taking over ponds and rivers.

This is just one example of how Term Clusters can help researchers. *Give it a try and see what it can do for you!*



## Which Gale Resources Offer Term Clusters?

Academic ASAP  
Academic OneFile  
Advanced Placement Fine Arts and Music Collection  
Advanced Placement Global History Collection  
Advanced Placement Government and Social Studies Collection  
Advanced Placement Honors Literature Collection  
Advanced Placement Psychology Collection  
Advanced Placement Science Collection  
Advanced Placement U.S. History Collection  
Agriculture Collection  
Business Economics and Theory  
Communications and Mass Media Collection  
Computer Database  
CPI.Q (Canadian Periodicals)  
Criminal Justice Collection  
Culinary Arts Collection

Discovering Collection  
Diversity Studies Collection  
Educator's Reference Complete  
Environmental Studies and Policy Collection  
Expanded Academic ASAP  
Fine Arts and Music Collection  
Gardening, Landscape and Horticulture Collection  
Gender Studies Collection  
General Business File ASAP  
General OneFile  
General Reference Center  
General Reference Center Gold  
General Science Collection  
Health Reference Center Academic  
Home Improvement Collection  
Hospitality, Tourism and Leisure Collection  
Information Science and Library Issues Collection  
Informe Academico  
InfoTrac Newsstand

Insurance and Liability Collection  
Junior Edition  
LegalTrac  
Military and Intelligence Database  
Nursing and Allied Health Collection  
Physical Therapy and Sports Medicine Collection  
Pop Culture Collection  
Popular Magazines  
PowerSearch  
Professional Collection  
Psychology Collection  
Religion and Philosophy Collection  
Small Business Collection  
Student Edition  
U.S. History Collection  
Vocations and Careers Collection  
War and Terrorism Collection  
World History Collection  
Custom Journal Products  
Custom Newspaper Products

**Questions? Call Gale Technical Support at 1-800-877-4253.**