VEuPathDB
Eukaryotic Pathogen, Vector & Host Informatics Resources

Site Search in VEuPathDB

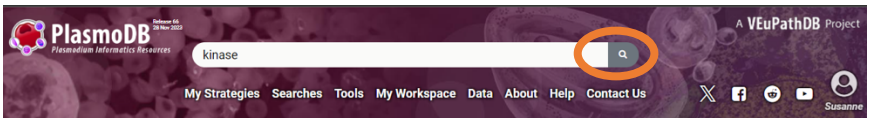
Learning objectives

- Search by keywords or identifiers
- Filter site search results by categories and fields
- Export results to a search strategy
- Find a specific gene using its ID in site search
- Navigate to and from the site search result
- Explore searches using wild cards (*)

Introduction

The site search is located in the header of any VEuPathDB site and is available on every page. The site search queries the databases for your term or ID and returns a list of pages and documents that contain your query term.

1. Go to PlasmoDB.org[1] and search for a keyword. Enter the word *kinase* in the site search window. Then click enter on your keyboard or click on the search icon.



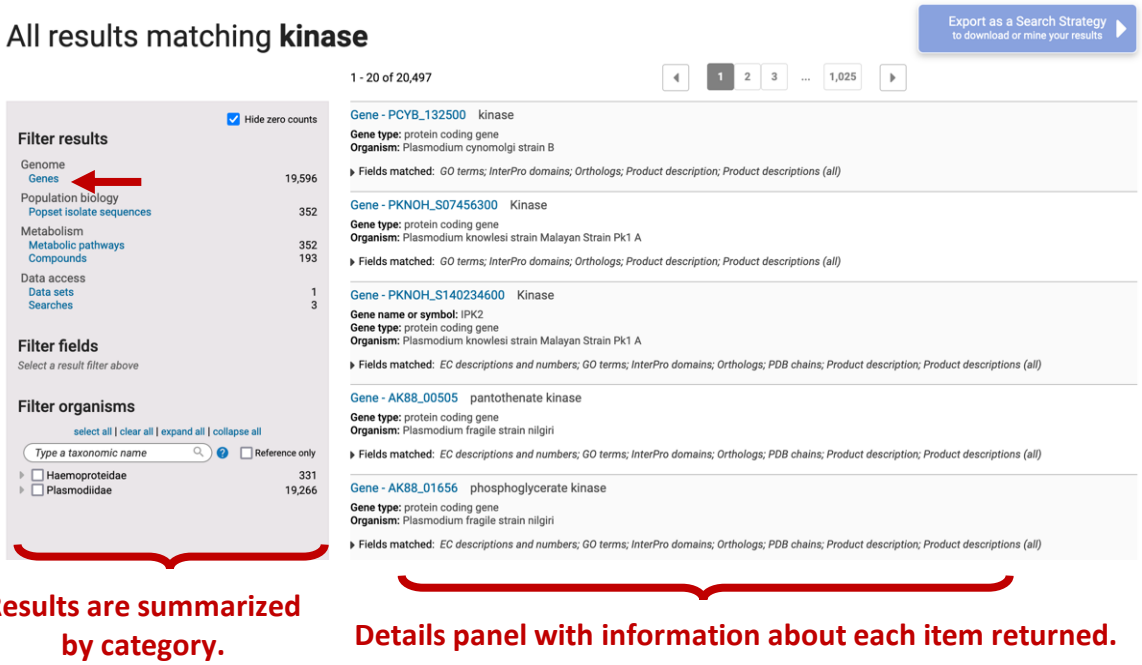
Site Search result format: The site search returns a categorized list of pages and documents that contain your term. Site search results are summarized on the left with a details panel on the right. Changing the panel on the left will populate the details panel with that result.

What is the total number[2] of results with the word kinase?

[1] Note that this exercise uses PlasmoDB.org as an example database, but the same functionality is available on all VEuPathDB resources.

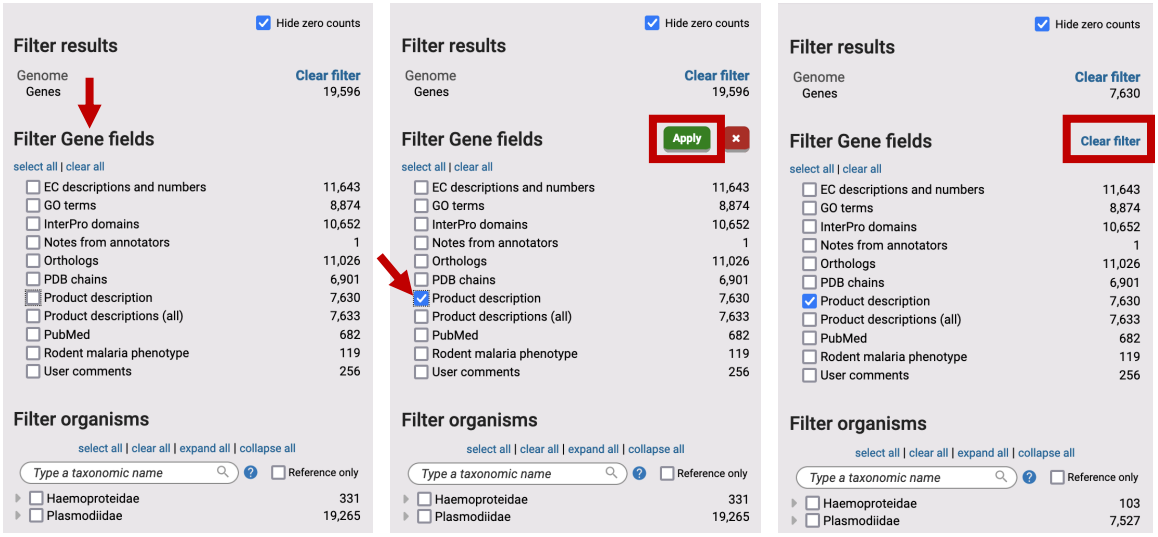
[2] VEuPathDB is updated regularly, so the numbers you see while completing the exercise may differ slightly from those shown in the screenshots.

Are all the results genes?



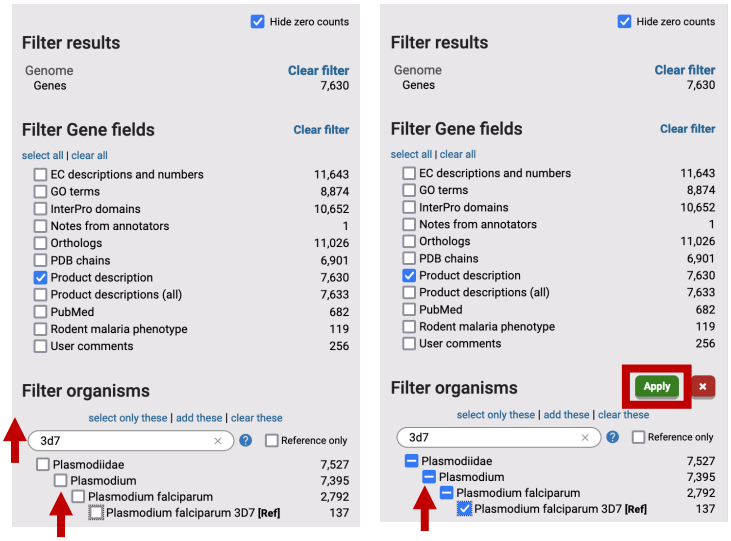
2. Filter the site search result by category.
How many genes included the word kinase in their product descriptions?

Filter the results so that you can only view gene results, and the Filter Fields section expands to reveal additional filtering options. Select the *Product descriptions* field and choose *Apply*. Once a filter is applied, it can be removed by clicking on *Clear filter* (right panel below).

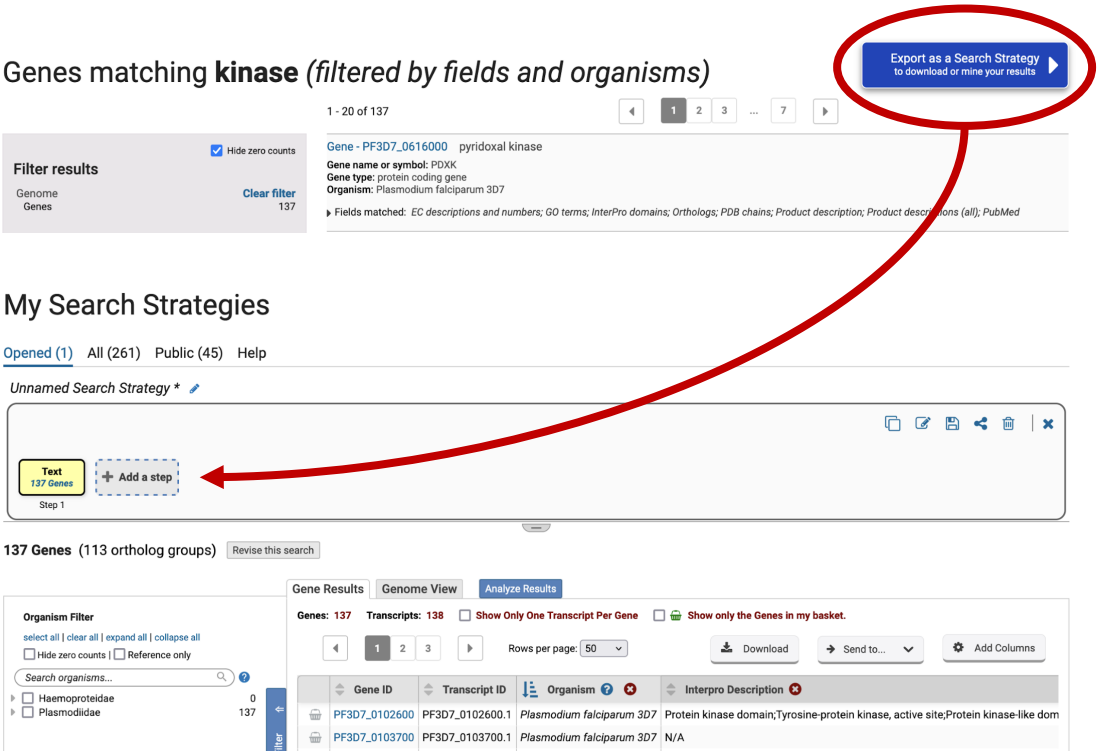


3. Filter the site search result by organism: How many of the above genes are found in *Plasmodium falciparum* 3D7?

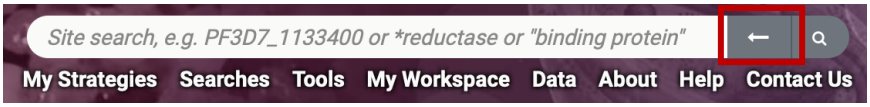
   (Hint: Explore the *Filter organisms* section of the results filter and use the search filter to navigate the tree.



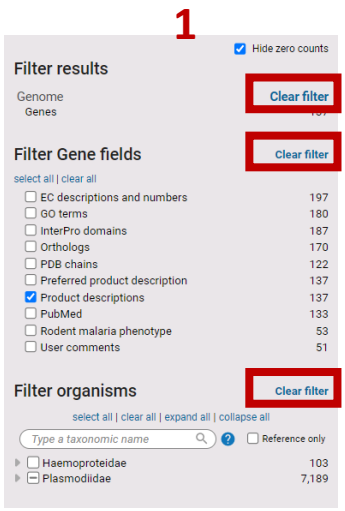
4. Export the results to a search strategy. Use the blue *Export as a Search Strategy* button at the top right-hand side of the results. Once exported, you can take advantage of over 100 specialized searches using the Add Step button. We will learn more about this in a future exercise.

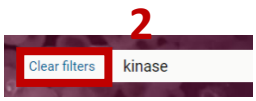


5. Return to the site search results page. You can achieve this in two ways: 1. Your previous results and filter settings were preserved and can be accessed by clicking on the 'back to results' arrow in the site search window. 2. Click on your browser's back arrow.

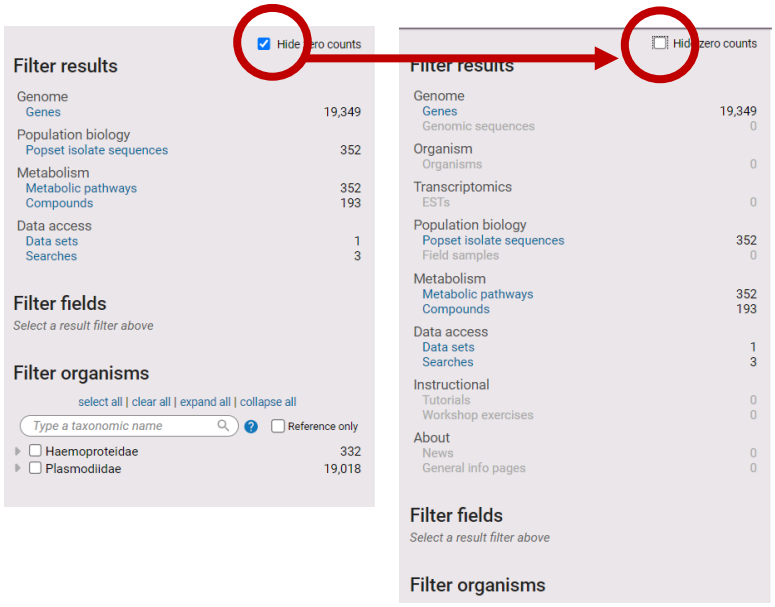


6. Clear all filters. You can achieve this in two ways: 1. click on each clear filter option in the filter results panel. 2. You can click on the *clear filters option* in the site search window to Clear All filters.

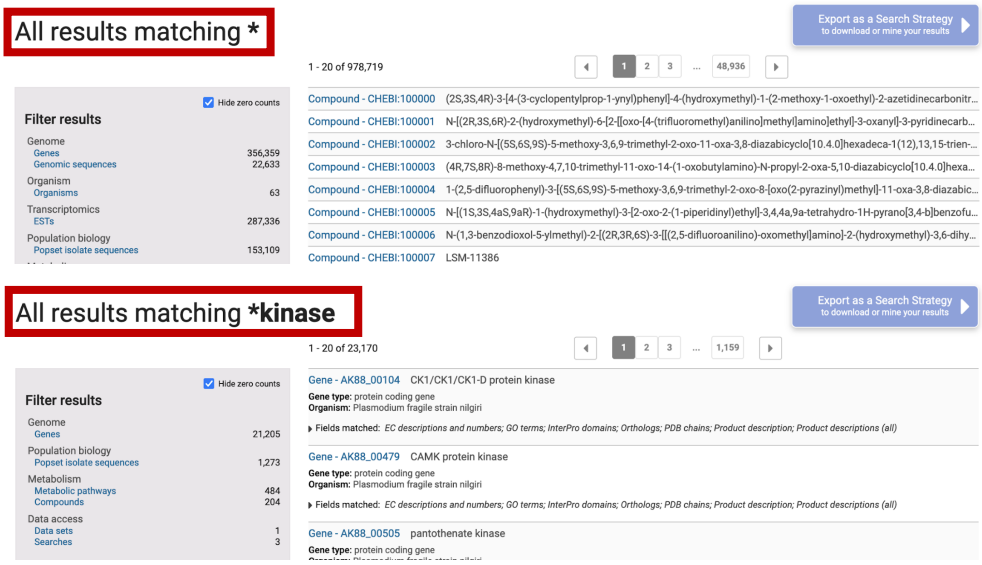




7. Click the *Hide zero counts* check box in the *Filter results* panel. What does this do?



8. Run a wild card search. The wild card (denoted by an asterisk *) can be used alone to retrieve all site search results or combined with a word such as **kinase* to retrieve compound words ending with kinase, like phosphofructokinase. As usual, results can then be explored using the filters in the *Results filter* on the left side of the website. Feel free to compare the results when you run a search or the word *kinase* to a search with a wild card **kinase* or **kinase**.



9. Search for a specific gene ID. Enter the gene ID in the site search window: *PF3D7_0310100*. When there is an exact match for an ID in the database, the site search offers a card in the details panel to draw attention to the direct link to the gene page. Although your search for PF3D7_0310100 does return a direct link to the gene in *P. falciparum* 3D7, it also returns a link to the *P. gaboni* strain gene. Why?