Search Tool Changes Needed

January 26, 2024

Summary

"…When I do a search in GRIN-Global, some columns that were previously on the Accessions tab are now no longer visible…" – an email from a NPGS GG user. This is an ongoing Search Tool issue – users cannot display all the dataview columns.

Background: Years ago the Search Tool had a "Show All" checkbox to restore any hidden columns. At some point, the selecting or deselecting of the box had no effect. The checkbox was removed, but the underlying issue was never resolved.

Note: User settings for the CT and ST tabs and columns are saved on the server. To restore the user's columns, the current remedy requires the DBA to manually run SQL scripts.

The simplest fix is to re-introduce a checkbox (or a context menu option, or both) – to restore *all* columns in the dataview. (Image 1 below)

However, many Search Tool tickets in the trac queue would enhance the ST's column display. One approach is to give the user the capability to clone the CT's dataview tab and column settings to the Search Tool.

A better approach, based on the CT, is to incorporate a column chooser feature, identical to the CT's (image 2).

Finally, several "tab manager" tickets were written, proposing a comprehensive change for selecting dataviews/tabs. Currently users manually open dataview tabs, one at a time. If they close the tab, they must repeat those same steps again later. Ideally, with a tab manager, a user could open a group of tabs in one action. One example – see image 3. Users would save time not only in invoking tabs, but also reduce time spent scrolling when many tabs are open.

Many of the tickets overlap, but the bottom line is that the search tool could be improved, especially with respect to selecting tabs and columns. The immediate need is to give the user the ability to restore hidden columns.

-- Marty Reisinger

Existing Tickets in trac related to this:

The commonality with the tickets listed below is that Search Tool users need a better means to display and hide dataview columns while using the ST.

1. https://npgsweb.ars-grin.gov/trac/GG/ticket/777 961 is similar
   (The Show All box was removed as well as the ability to restore missing columns. The box and its functionality needs to be restored.)

2. https://npgsweb.ars-grin.gov/trac/GG/ticket/2666
   Capability to match the CT's tabs

3. https://npgsweb.ars-grin.gov/trac/GG/ticket/2667
   Column Chooser needed for the Search Tool

4. https://npgsweb.ars-grin.gov/trac/GG/ticket/2898
   Search Tool - Need to Redisplay All Hidden Rows

5. https://npgsweb.ars-grin.gov/trac/GG/ticket/1530
   Search Tool Dataview Tab Managers

6. https://npgsweb.ars-grin.gov/trac/GG/ticket/1529
   Curator Tool Dataview Tab Manager

Other Search Tool trac tickets should also be considered when the ST development occurs, such as the following:

https://npgsweb.ars-grin.gov/trac/GG/ticket/2711
Enable an auto-sense list search in the Search Tool

Images

Image 1: Button and / or menu option to Display all columns

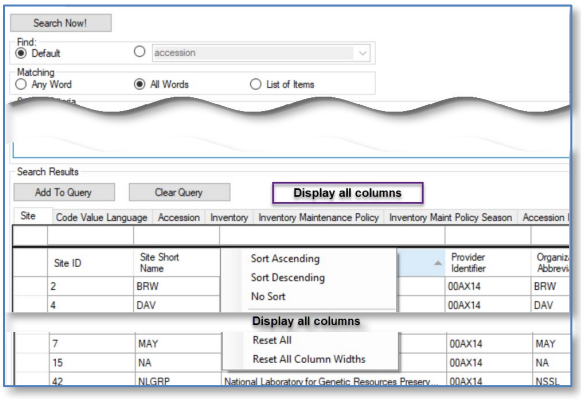


Image 2: Column Chooser

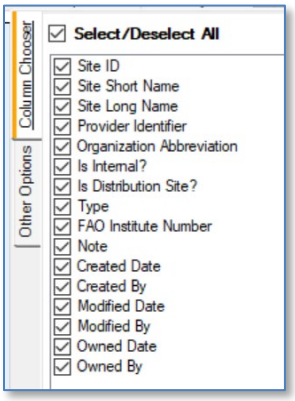


Image 3: Tab Manager

