

Getting Started with Accounting

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No matter what type of business you are managing with Farmbrite, you'll probably want to know what you're spending on expenses and how much income you're bringing back in. That means you'll want to record transactions on each side of that ledger, and have them automatically totaled to calculate that profit or loss. You might be spending money on livestock feed, plant nutrients, equipment maintenance, and many other things. Likewise, you might generate income by selling livestock, distributing produce in a CSA share, or even through government grants and loans. Farmbrite can take those ledger transactions and generate reports that specifically correlate with the IRS Schedule F Tax Form 1040 categories by default, or you can customize your own chart of accounts for the categories that work for your business. You'll also find charts and graphs on your Accounting Dashboard to help you track your accounting throughout the year at a glance.

This article is a high level overview of the Farmbrite Accounting system. To learn more details about each feature, click the links within each section below to be brought to additional help articles.

Accounting Dashboard

When you select Accounting from the main menu, you'll arrive on your [Accounting Dashboard](#). This is the central hub of your Farmbrite Accounting system. You can create transactions here, and view all of the transactions you've previously created. You'll immediately see charts at the top; the left shows a monthly summary of income compared to expenses, and the right categorizes those expenses into a pie chart by type. These easy to read charts provide at-a-glance information to help you see profitability and what your money is being invested in. All of your transactions for this reporting year are shown below the charts for you to easily search and filter too. This helps you find exactly what you are looking for by keyword, date range, category, or reporting year, and then sort the results how you'd like.

The screenshot displays the Farmbrite Accounting Dashboard for 2023. At the top, there's a search bar and user information (Chris). The dashboard is divided into three main sections: a left sidebar with navigation options (Schedule, Tasks, Livestock, Plantings, Resources, Accounting, Transactions, P&L Statement, Cash Flow, Market, Contacts, Farm Map, Climate, Reports), a central summary area, and a right sidebar with expense categories.

2023 Summary

2023 INCOME VS EXPENSE

A bar chart showing monthly income and expenses. Income is represented by green bars above the zero line, and expenses by red bars below. The x-axis lists months from January to December. A significant income spike is visible in August, while a major expense occurs in September.

2023 EXPENSE CATEGORIES

A pie chart showing the distribution of expenses. The legend includes: Crop operation (21.80%), Purchase of live (21.80%), Supplies (11.20%), Taxes (7.03%), Labor hired (6.71%), Depreciation (5.46%), Pension and prof (3.14%), Insurance (other) (2.70%), Feed/cattle fee (1.77%), Rent or lease of (1.91%), Charitable cont (1.46%), and Fertilizers and (3.00%).

Summary Metrics: Revenue: \$73,854 | Expenses: \$35,699 | Profit: \$38,155

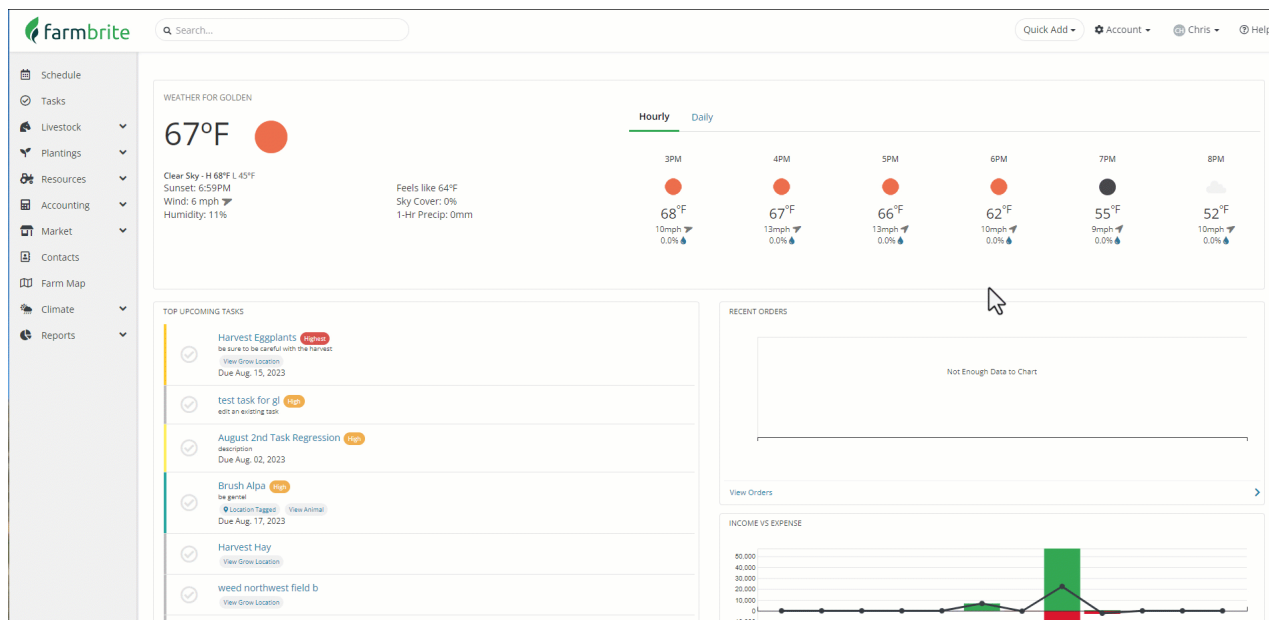
Transactions Table:

Date	Payee	Category	Description	Type	Amount
Sep. 27, 2023	Billy Pendelton	Sales of livestock, produce, grains, and other products you raised	Bill of sale #1695826497.	Income	\$450.00
Sep. 27, 2023	Clancy Wiggum	Feed: cattle feed		Expense	-\$25.00
Sep. 27, 2023	The Wool Workshop	Sales of livestock, produce, grains, and other products you raised		Income	\$35.00
Sep. 26, 2023	CSA Share Subscriptions	Sales of livestock, produce, grains, and other products you raised		Income	\$1,250.00
Sep. 25, 2023	Todd's Toyota Service	Car and truck expenses		Expense	-\$200.00
Sep. 25, 2023	Autozone			Expense	-\$48.00
Sep. 25, 2023	Franks Fertilizer	Fertilizers and lime		Expense	-\$400.00

Accounting Categories

Did you notice how we filtered for just our Fertilizer and Lime expenses in the video above? [Categorizing transactions](#) classifies your income and expenses into separate buckets, helping you see where your

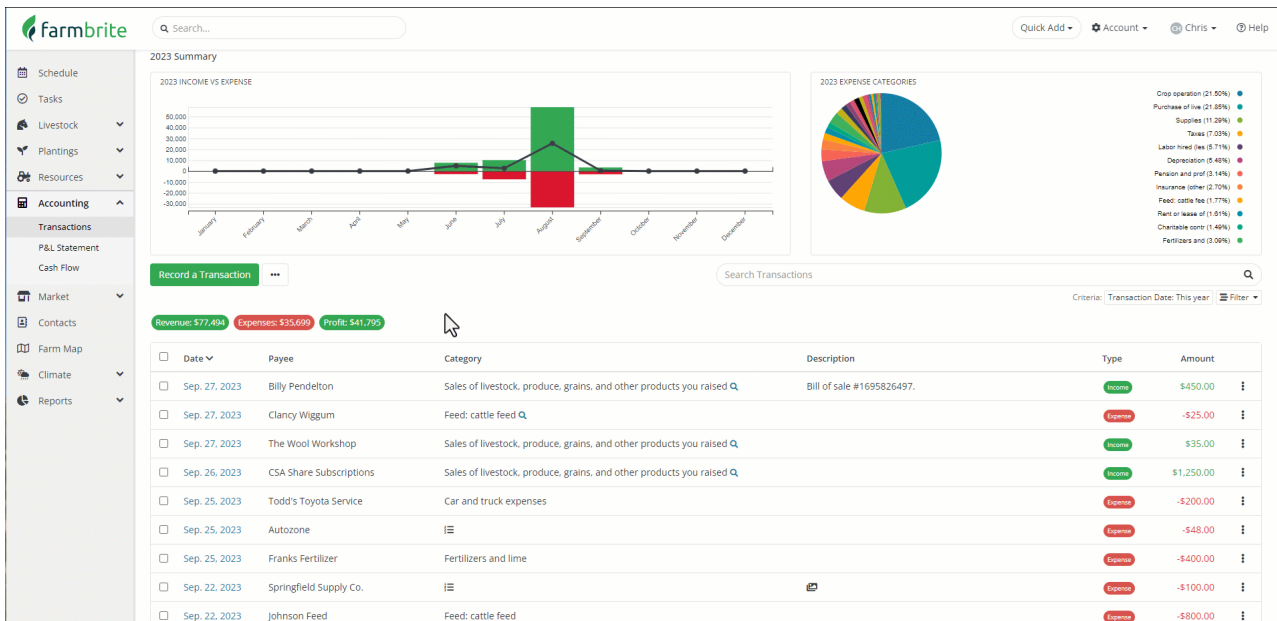
money is being spent, and where your income is generated from. Farmbrite comes with default categories for you to choose from that are directly related to the United States IRS Schedule F Tax Form 1040. You select from these categories when creating transactions. You can also [customize your accounting categories](#) to be more aligned with your country, or your business operations. Accounting categories can also be connected in a parent/child relationship, allowing you to create subcategories and subtotals within a larger category. *The example below shows you how to start customizing your chart of accounts, but be aware that this is not required; the standard categories are automatically available for you to use without this step.*



These categories also play a major role in your financial reporting. We saw in the previous section that they're used in your accounting dashboard pie chart, and they are also critical for your [Profit and Loss Statement](#), [Tax Summary](#), and [Spending by Category](#) reports.

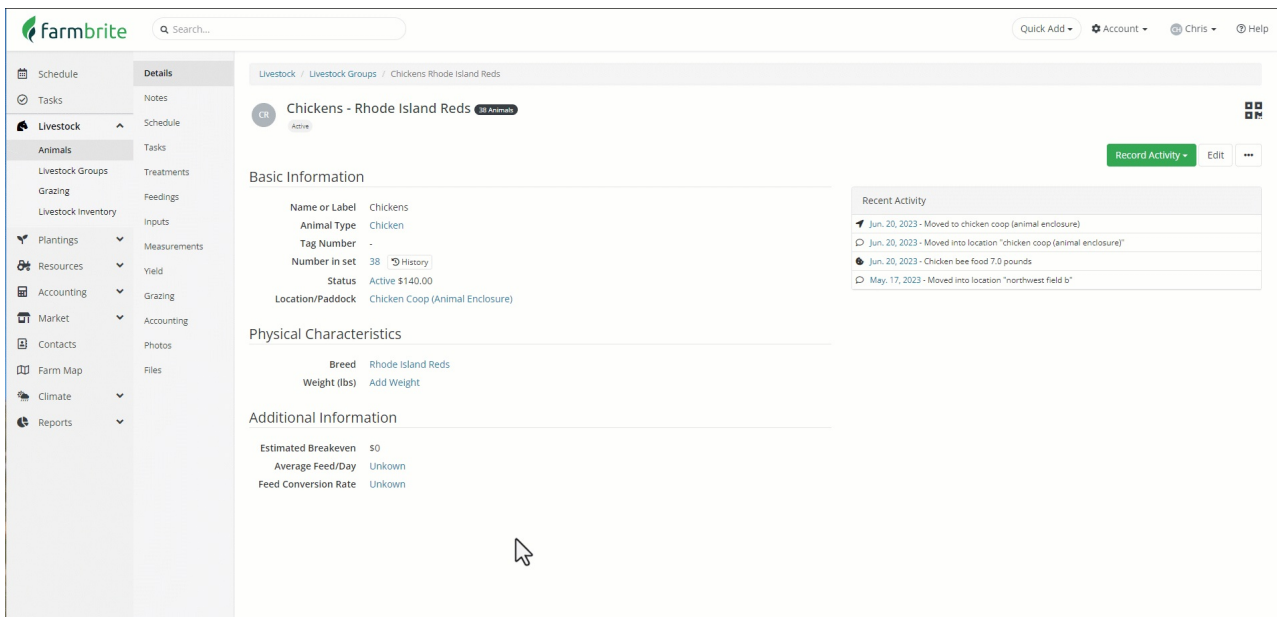
Creating Transactions

To get those helpful reports and all that dashboard data, you'll need to [add your transactions to Farmbrite](#). You can do this by creating them right from the dashboard, or by importing them from a spreadsheet. Part of recording the transaction is associating it with a category as well, or multiple categories if you choose to [split your transaction](#). In the example below we are recording an expense from a local supply shop so we chose the category "Supplies". You can adjust the date, add keywords, associate it with a particular record (animal, crop, equipment, etc.) and upload images associated with the transaction as well.



Accounting on Individual Records

You also might create these transactions directly on equipment, market orders, livestock, or crop records to associate the income or expense with them. Each record has an accounting tab that shows any transactions associated with it. In the example below, you'll see our transactions that are connected to our chicken flock. If you create transactions from the main accounting dashboard and associate them with this record, you'll automatically see them here. You can also record transaction directly from here as well; the choice is up to you as both are displayed in these totals and in your reports.



Accounting Reports

You'll find multiple financial reports under the reporting section in Farmbrite. Each is outlined below, and linked to a more in depth article as well.

farmbrite Search...

Quick Add Account Chris Help

Schedule

Tasks

Livestock

Plantings

Resources

Accounting

Market

Contacts

Farm Map

Climate

Reports

Standard Reports

Custom Reports

Standard Reports

Accounting & Financials

Accounts Receivable Aging Profit & Loss
Cash Flow Statement Profit & Loss By Month
Spending by Category
Tax Summary

Livestock & Grazing

Break Even Amount Grazing Details
Breeding Grazing Summary
Deaths & Losses Livestock Inventory
Drying Off Measurements
Due Dates Pregnancy Checks
Fields being Grazed Reproduction Details
Feeding Summary (ADG/FCR) Reproduction Summary

Treatments & Vaccinations
Upcoming Treatments
Weanings
Yearlings
Yield Details
Yield Summary by Type

Plantings & Crops

Break Even Amount
Estimate Seed Order
Expected Harvests
Grow Location History

Harvests Details
Harvests Summary by Type
Nutrients & Amendments
Planting Inventory

Soil & Nutrient Samples
Treatments
Upcoming Harvests
Yield Comparison

Orders & Market

Finished Orders
Order Summary
Payment Due Orders
Pending Orders
Top Customers
Top Products

Tasks & Schedule

Tasks Completed
Tasks Due
Schedule

Resources

Equipment Maintenance
Inventory History
Inventory Summary by Location
Inventory Summary by Type

Want to do more with reporting? Build a custom report

- [Profit and Loss Statement](#) - The categories that you use for your transactions translate directly to your Profit and Loss Statement. This report is a breakdown of your income, expenses, and profit for a specified time period. Like creating transactions, [Profit and Loss Statements can also be run for specific fields, animals, equipment, and more](#) to give you this information for a more granular piece of your business.
- [Cash Flow](#) - If you'd like to see a running total for your business finances that includes a previous period starting balance, you'll find the Cash Flow Report very useful. Like the Profit and Loss Statement, the Cash Flow Report will show you income and expenses during a given period to calculate a total. Beyond that, it will use all transactions prior to your start date to calculate a Starting Cash Balance. This gives you a running total for your business operations. If you're new to Farmbrite, you can [add your beginning cash balance](#) as a single transaction to still get the benefit of this report.
- [Tax Summary](#) - Similar to the Profit and Loss Statement, but based on the tax lines associated with your categories. If you're using the default categories this report will correspond to your Schedule F tax lines, and if you've customized your chart of accounts it will use the tax lines you defined. Note that you can have multiple categories combined into the same tax line if you define the same tax line in multiple categories.
- [Spending by Category](#) - This report uses your standard or customized expense categories like the Profit and Loss Statement, but shows you detailed transaction information within each category. Note this is just for expenses, and not income transactions.
- [Accounts Receivable Aging](#) - This report is specific to market orders; it shows you who still owes you money for orders that you have processed, with different timeframes for the duration of the outstanding balance.
- Looking for more? You can also [create custom reports for your Transactions](#) which allow you to add the specific data you'd like to see to a report.

Make sure you check out all the linked articles in each section above. You'll be on your way to easier bookkeeping and financial know-how in no time! If you don't find what you're looking for or still have questions, feel free to [contact us](#); we're always glad to help.
