

# Importing Data

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Need to get a lot of data in to Farmbrite, and want to skip the manual work? You can import many different types of record into Farmbrite from a spreadsheet. You can also use this same import function to edit and update existing records that you've already created. This article will show you the basics, and the bullet points below link you to individual articles about importing into different areas of Farmbrite.

Overall, the process for any of these record types is the same; **you'll download a template spreadsheet, complete it with your data, and then upload it to the system to create or update your records.**

Imports are available for the following record types.

- [Livestock](#)
- [Livestock Yields](#)
- [Crop Types](#)
- [Grow Locations](#)
- [Nutrients/ Soil Samples](#)
- [Crop Harvests](#)
- [Accounting Transactions](#)
- [Contacts](#)
- [Equipment](#)
- [Products](#)
- [Climate Logs](#)
- [Map Coordinates](#)

*We are going to use Livestock in the example below, but remember this is available from any of the sections in the bullet points above. Also, be aware that all imports have a 1000 row limit, so if you need to import more than 1000 rows, you'll need multiple spreadsheets/imports.*

**To get started, navigate to the area you wish to import data. From there, click the Actions Button (3 Dots) and select Import Records.** A new page will open that presents a step-by-step guide for importing your records. The first step is to download our template spreadsheet that comes preloaded with the column headers you'll need to import the data, highlighted in the image below.

*We think using this sheet makes the process much easier, as it gets you started with the available fields, and you can choose which ones to add to data to. However, note that using the file is not absolutely required, and that you can use your own existing spreadsheet if you'd like. You'll be required to map your columns to available fields in Farmbrite in a subsequent step in the process if you choose to use your own file template.*

**Livestock**

Criteria: Animal Types: All | Status: Active or Dry or Finta... | Filter

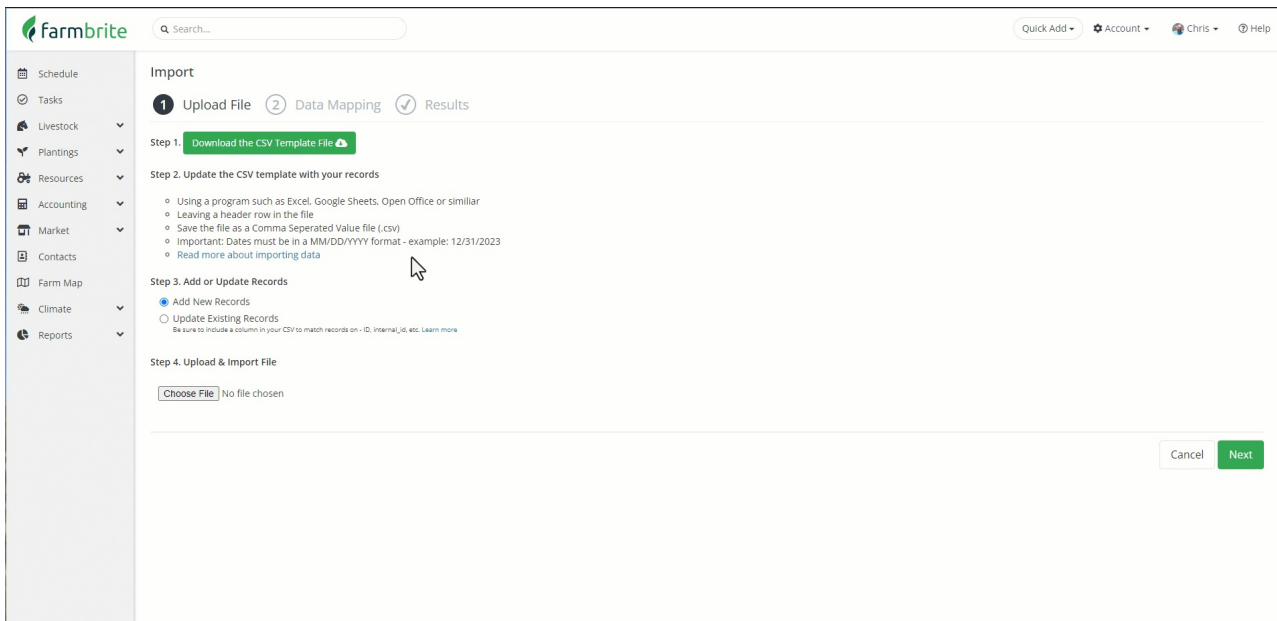
Animals	Trout	Cattle	Chicken	Male	Female	Pregnant
287 100% OF 287	125 44% OF 287	102 36% OF 287	33 11% OF 287	16 14% OF 114	90 78% OF 114	80 70% OF 114

Animal	Gender	Age	Last Weight	Status	Type/Breed
A0 Alpaca 001	Male			Active	Alpaca
B0 Bull 002 (Kenny)				Active	Cattle
B0 Bull 08 (Vinny)	Male	3 years, 10 months, 12 days		Active	Cattle
B1 Bull 11 (Freddie)	Male	6 years, 4 months, 30 days		Active	Cattle
B0 Bull 032 (Jack)	Male		210.00	Active	Cattle
C0 Cow 0001				Active	Cattle
C0 Cow 03		0 years, 9 months, 18 days		Active	Cattle
C1 Cow 12 Offspring		0 years, 1 months, 16 days		Active	Cattle
C1 Cow 12 Offspring		0 years, 1 months, 16 days		Active	Cattle
C0 Cow 072 Bertha	Female	0 years, 9 months, 8 days		Active Pregnant	Cattle

**Open the file with a spreadsheet program** like Excel or Google Sheets. Each row in your spreadsheet is used for a different animal, and each column is a piece of data about that animal. Complete the spreadsheet with any information you'd like to add. You don't have to supply data in all of the columns, but for a livestock import, at a minimum you should supply a type (cattle, goat, pig, etc.) and a name to distinguish each animal. Beyond that, add what is relevant for you. You can delete columns that you're not using if you'd like a cleaner sheet, but it's not required to do so. You'll end up with something that looks like the image below. **Save your spreadsheet as a .csv file.**

1	type	breed	name	bill_of_sale_id	birth_date	birth_weight	bred_date	breeder_id	breeding_status	breeding_stock	coloring	condition_score	days_to_wean	death_date	deceased_reasc	description	due_date	electronic_id	estim
2	Cattle	Hereford	Tony		01/15/2020	78													
3	Cattle	Hereford	Janice		03/25/2021	65													
4	Cattle	Hereford	Livia		03/27/2021	62													
5	Cattle	Hereford	Carmela		04/10/2021	70													
6	Cattle	Hereford	Rosalie		04/08/2021	59													
7	Cattle	Hereford	Angie		03/29/2021	63													
8	Cattle	Hereford	Gloria		04/01/2021	68													

Return to Farmbrite, and **select if you are adding new records or updating existing ones.** We're adding new ones in our example, but scroll further down this article for a full section about updating existing records via this import process. Then **choose your file to upload from wherever you stored the .csv file on your computer.**



Farmbrite will analyze the file, and bring you to **Step 2 - Data Mapping**. Essentially, this step has you connect the fields from your spreadsheet in the left column with standard Farmbrite fields shown on the right. You are basically telling the system that "the data in this spreadsheet column should be added to this specific Farmbrite field". In the example below, the column "Type" from the spreadsheet is mapped to the field "Type" in Farmbrite, "Name" to "Name", etc. **If you used the Farmbrite import template, you won't have any work to do here, as the fields will automatically match.** If you used your own sheet with your own columns, this is your opportunity to match your data with Farmbrite's standard fields.

Additionally, you'll also find a feature to **Optionally Specify Default Values**, which you can use to supply a value for a specific field to be used for all the records on your import sheet. You can select any field relevant to the records you are importing, and add a value to be added to all of the records without having to have the data in the spreadsheet. So if you have a lot of records that require the exact same data, you can avoid potentially tedious spreadsheet work by adding the data here instead. All records on the sheet will be given this same value, unless other data is specified for them in the spreadsheet. The spreadsheet data overrides this feature. *Note that this is only available when adding new records, and not on an update.*

After verifying the mapping, **click Import** in the bottom right.

The screenshot shows the 'Import' section of the Farmbrite web application. It features a progress indicator with three steps: '1 Upload File', '2 Data Mapping', and '3 Results'. A central instruction reads: 'Match your file headers on the left to the Farmbrite name on the right.' Below this is a table for mapping headers:

Your File Headers	Farmbrite Name
type <i>Cattle</i>	type
breed <i>Hereford</i>	breed
name <i>Tony</i>	name
birth_date <i>01/15/2020</i>	birth_date
birth_weight <i>78</i>	birth_weight
gender <i>Male</i>	gender
status <i>Active</i>	status
tag_number <i>12345</i>	tag_number

At the bottom right of the table area, there are two buttons: 'Cancel' and 'Import'.

The file will be imported, and **you'll be presented with a Results page**. You'll be alerted to successfully imported records, and any errors that may have occurred. If you do encounter any errors, Farmbrite will tell you to what's missing, or what might be causing an issue. If you think you have everything correct but are still receiving an error, [reach out to us](#) and we'll be glad to help!

## Updating Records Through Import

The process for updating records via import is very similar to what we just saw. Instead of creating brand new records, you'll use a spreadsheet to make changes to existing ones. This time, rather than starting with the blank template, it might make sense to [download your current records](#), and then edit the file with your updated information. You could use your own spreadsheet as well, but note that you need to supply an ID to match the existing records so Farmbrite knows which animal to associate the new data with. That can be either the ID, Tag Number, Electronic ID, or Internal ID. Those columns are all included in the downloaded export file, or can alternatively be found on the animal record in Farmbrite as well. Examples of both ways are shown below.

**Livestock**

Criteria: Animal Types: All | Animal Type: Cattle | Status: Active or Dry or Finis... | Birth Date Range: Mar. 20, 2021-Apr. 30, ...

Animal	Gender	Age	Last Weight	Status	Type/Breed
1235 Angle #12350	Female	2 years, 4 months, 25 days	63.00	Active	Cattle Hereford
1234 Carmela #12348	Female	2 years, 4 months, 13 days	70.00	Active	Cattle Hereford
1235 Gloria #12381	Female	2 years, 4 months, 22 days	68.00	Active	Cattle Hereford
1234 Janice #12346	Female	2 years, 4 months, 29 days	65.00	Active	Cattle Hereford
1234 Livia #12347	Female	2 years, 4 months, 27 days	62.00	Active	Cattle Hereford
1234 Rosalie #12349	Female	2 years, 4 months, 15 days	59.00	Active	Cattle Hereford

Displaying all 6 records

You might use this process to update current measurements, statuses, or tags. In our example below, we've updated the weight and height of our animals from a recent weigh in. *Hot Tip: Note how we froze the columns in the spreadsheet so we could easily know what animal was in each row.* We save the file as a .csv, and then go through the same steps to import the file as we saw in the section above. Be careful to select "Update Existing Records" when importing the file. Also, be aware that when working with livestock records, you have a Bulk Update From File choice, which automatically selects this for you.

id	created_at	updated_at	name	tag_number	electronic_id	tag_color	tag_location	registry_number	other_tag_num	other_tag_color	other_tag_locati	tattoo_left	tattoo_right	description	keywords	gender	birth_date
64e64886fa1b8f000c8afe7d	2023-08-23 17:5	2023-08-23 17:5	Janice	12346												Female	2021-03-2
64e64886fa1b8f000c8afe7f	2023-08-23 17:5	2023-08-23 17:5	Livia	12347												Female	2021-03-2
64e64886fa1b8f000c8afe81	2023-08-23 17:5	2023-08-23 17:5	Carmela	12348												Female	2021-04-11
64e64886fa1b8f000c8afe83	2023-08-23 17:5	2023-08-23 17:5	Rosalie	12349												Female	2021-04-01
64e64886fa1b8f000c8afe85	2023-08-23 17:5	2023-08-23 17:5	Angle	12350												Female	2021-03-2
64e64886fa1b8f000c8afe87	2023-08-23 17:5	2023-08-23 17:5	Gloria	12351												Female	2021-04-0
64e64886fa1b8f000c8afe7b	2023-08-23 17:5	2023-08-23 17:5	Tony	12345												Male	2020-01-11

Our animals were updated successfully and we now have new measurement records for them for today.

If you need help with this process, [please reach out to our support team](#). We will be glad to assist, and also offer importing your data as a professional service if you'd like us to process the imports for you.