**Basic Bookkeeping Resources**

To succeed in business, one of your most important tools is financial analysis, based on your business records. Accurate financial records will help you answer some very important questions. Are you making money, or losing it? How much? Is your business on sound financial ground, or are troubles lurking ahead? A sound bookkeeping system is the foundation on which all of this valuable financial information can be built.

Below are resources you may find useful when determining the best basic bookkeeping system for your agricultural business.

**Online Resources**

**Title: Farm Business Records – An Introduction**.

**Author/Date:** Richard Carkner, 2000.

**URL:**<http://fieldguideforbeginningfarmers.wikispaces.com/file/view/farmbusinessrecords.pdf/116598811/farmbusinessrecords.pdf>

**Title: Beginning Farmer and Rancher Resources: Basic Bookkeeping, Budgeting, and Tax Recordkeeping.** [Blog]

**Author/Date:** Poppy Davis, 2008.

**URL:**<http://beginingfarmerrancher.wordpress.com/>

**Title: Starting a Business & Keeping Records**.

**Author/Date:** Internal Revenue Service, 2011.

**URL**:<http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/p583.pdf>

**Title:** **Agriculture & Business Management: Record Keeping/Accounting**

**Author/Date:** Colorado State University Extension, 2008.

**URL:** <http://www.coopext.colostate.edu/ABM/abmselectingrecordkeeping.pdf>

**Title:** **Establishing & Using a Farm Financial Record-Keeping System**

**Author/Date:** Delton C. Gerloff & Robert W. Holland Jr., University of Tennessee Extension Service, 2009.

**URL:** <https://utextension.tennessee.edu/publications/Documents/pb1540.pdf>

**Accounting Software Programs (listed alphabetically)**

* AccountEdge 2010 for Windows
* AG Squared
* Farmbrite
* Freshbooks
* Outright
* Peachtree
* QuickBooks
* Quicken
* Specialized Data Systems, Inc. – Farm and Ranch Accounting Software

**Articles on Bookkeeping for Small Business**

**Title: Fearless Farm Finances**

**Authors:** Paul Dietmann, Craig Chase, and Chris Blanchard

**URL:** <http://www.northcentralsare.org/Educational-Resources/SARE-Project-Products/Fearless-Farm-Finances>

**Title: The Farmers Office**

**Author:** Julia Shanks

**URL:** <http://www.juliashanks.com/thefarmersofficetemplates/>

**Title: Best Small Business Accounting Software**

**Author/Date:** Jeffrey Wilson (PC Magazine), 2010.

**URL:** [http://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,2817,2363725,00.asp](http://www.pcmag.com/article2/0%2C2817%2C2363725%2C00.asp)

**Title:** **Bookkeeping Basics for Small Business**

**Author/Date:** U.S. Small Business Administration, 2009.

**URL:** <http://www.sba.gov/blogs/bookkeeping-basics-small-business>

*In addition to the above information, it is suggested that you read and utilize the Financial Situation (pages 51-60) and Financial Strategy worksheets, shared in the S.A.R.E. publication “Building A Sustainable Business.”*