

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Citrus County

Florida · Inverness · FIPS 12017 · Population 155,173 ·
Crosodo Index #1696*

STATE BASELINE	STATE TIER	ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)	CONFIDENCE	LAST VERIFIED
Fla. Stat. \$500.80	Great	250000	MEDIUM	2026-05-05

IMPORTANT — NOT LEGAL ADVICE

This report compiles publicly-available statutes, regulations, and county zoning rules into a research reference. It is **not legal advice** and is provided **without warranty** as to accuracy, completeness, or current applicability.

Cottage food law changes frequently. Counties may amend zoning, health departments may issue new permits, and state legislatures may update statutes after the publication date shown above.

Always verify rules directly with your state department of health/agriculture and your county health and planning offices before relying on them for any business or regulatory decision. Consult a licensed attorney for advice specific to your situation.

How to start — 60-second path

Citrus County, Florida — permit, pickup, and label steps before the full county rules.

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes

STATE SALES CAP

250000

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Conditional

INSPECTION

Upon-complaint

PETS

No state restriction on pets in home for cottage food operations.

BEFORE YOU SELL FROM THIS ADDRESS

- ☐ **1. Menu** — Confirm each product under Florida cottage food rules (county cannot expand a state ban).
- ☐ **2. Pickup & zoning** — Home occupation and porch pickup cells above; HOA/lease may still block customer traffic.
- ☐ **3. Local tax / license** — Business license or sales tax certificate if your city/parish requires it (common even with no state food permit).
- ☐ **4. Training** — Food handler or state registration before market day.
- ☐ **5. Labels** — Disclaimer, allergens, ingredients, net quantity, producer info.
- ☐ **6. Call if unclear** — County health and planning for your exact address.

LABEL FIELDS TO INCLUDE

- ☐ Product name · producer name · address (or allowed alternative)
- ☐ Ingredients by weight · major allergens · net weight/quantity
- ☐ Florida home-kitchen disclaimer (see live label one-pager)

CONTINUE ONLINE

Open the live county page →

Florida label one-pager →

Local notes & questions →

Planning path only — not legal advice. Rules change. Always verify with state and local offices before selling.

FLORIDA: CITRUS COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #1696* · FIPS 12017 · Inverness

Citrus County

Population 155,173 · State baseline: Fla. Stat. §500.80 · MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Florida allows cottage food from home kitchens with no registration, permit, or inspection required before operations. No food handler certification required. Strong state preemption — local governments cannot restrict cottage food operations (§500.80(6)). Annual sales cap of \$250,000. Online sales and mail-order delivery expressly permitted.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No state restriction on pets in home for cottage food operations.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Citrus County allows home occupations as accessory use in residential zones (per CityRuleLookup, sourced from Citrus County Code of Ordinances via Municode, verified March 2026). A local business tax receipt and/or home occupation permit may be required. Business must be secondary to residential use. No external signage, no on-site employees, limited customer visits per county zoning. Retail walk-ins prohibited. Florida state preemption applies to cottage food-specific health restrictions.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Conditional

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Inspections may only occur upon receipt of a consumer complaint (§500.80(7)).)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Florida allows cottage food from home kitchens with no registration, permit, or inspection required before operations. No food handler certification required. Strong state preemption — local governments cannot restrict cottage food operations (§500.80(6)). Annual sales cap of \$250,000. Online sales and mail-order delivery expressly permitted.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No state restriction on pets in home for cottage food operations.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific requirement under Florida cottage food law.
HANDWASHING	Good manufacturing practices apply.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only; proper storage required.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Inspections may only occur upon receipt of a consumer complaint (§500.80(7)).
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Citrus County allows home occupations as accessory use in residential zones (per CityRuleLookup, sourced from Citrus County Code of Ordinances via Municode, verified March 2026). A local business tax receipt and/or home occupation permit may be required. Business must be secondary to residential use. No external signage, no on-site employees, limited customer visits per county zoning. Retail walk-ins prohibited. Florida state preemption applies to cottage food-specific health restrictions.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Conditional
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	No
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct sales, online sales, mail-order delivery all expressly permitted under state law. Customer pickup at home limited by county home occupation rules. Retail walk-ins prohibited by county zoning.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Typically none on-site for home occupations per Citrus County zoning rules.

Relevant county code

Citrus County Code of Ordinances (home occupation provisions); Fla. Stat. §500.80

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county with county-level zoning data found. Citrus County Code of Ordinances (via Municode) confirms home occupation rules: home occupation permit required, business tax receipt required, no on-site employees, limited customer traffic, no retail walk-ins, external signage prohibited. State cottage food law preempts health restrictions. County health and planning URLs verified from input.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://citrus.floridahealth.gov>

<https://www.citruscounty.gov/planning>

<https://www.citruscounty.gov>

<https://www.fdacs.gov/Business-Services/Food/Cottage-Foods>

<https://www.cityrulelookup.com/home-business/cottage-food/citrus-county-fl>

<https://www.cityrulelookup.com/home-business/zoning/citrus-county-fl>

<https://library.municode.com/>

Questions about this county? Local notes and a place to leave a question: crosodo.com/nb/florida/citrus-county-discuss

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Citrus County	Sumter County	Hernando County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	No state restriction on pets in home for cottage food operations.	Not prohibited by state statute; kitchen sanitation recommended.	No explicit pet restriction in Florida cottage food statute.
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint	Upon-complaint	Upon-complaint
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Conditional	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	No	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Direct sales, online sales, mail-order delivery all expressly permitted under state law. Customer pickup at home limited by county home occ...	Online sales and mail-order delivery expressly permitted. Direct and indirect sales allowed. Sales must remain within Florida (no interstat...	Florida cottage food permits online sales, mail-order delivery, home pickup, events. \$250,000 annual cap. No wholesale.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional	Varies	Conditional
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Yes	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Florida allows cottage food from home kitchens with no registration, permit, or inspection required before operations. No food handler cert...	Annual gross sales capped at \$250,000. No registration, permit, or inspection required before beginning operations. No food handler certifi...	Florida cottage food law (\$500.80) permits home kitchen production of non-TCS foods. No registration, permit, or pre-operational inspection...
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only; proper storage required.	Non-TCS foods only. Stored in food-safe containers.	Non-TCS foods only. Standard safe storage practices.
POPULATION	155,173	131,832	196,621

State context — Florida cottage food law

Citrus County's rules sit on top of Florida's state cottage food framework. The state law sets the floor — counties can add but cannot remove protections.

STATUTE	ANNUAL SALES CAP
Fla. Stat. §500.80	250000
REGISTRATION REQUIRED	FOOD HANDLER CERT
No	No
KITCHEN INSPECTION	DIRECT SALES ONLY
Upon-complaint	No
INDIRECT SALES	
Limited (see notes) — Florida prohibits wholesale sales but allows online, mail-order, and in-person sales including delivery to consumers; state law preempts local restrictions on cottage food operations.	

For the full state-level analysis including the verbatim statute text, see the **Florida cottage food law report** on Crosodo, or open the live guide: crosodo.com/states/florida.

STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

State statute: http://www.leg.state.fl.us/statutes/index.cfm?App_mode=Display_Statute&URL=0500-0599/0500/Sections/0500.80.html

State dept cottage food page: <https://www.fdacs.gov/Business-Services/Food/Cottage-Foods>

Forrager.com: <https://forrager.com/law/florida/>

Questions about Citrus County? Local notes and a place to leave a question are on Crosodo. We monitor new threads — start with zoning, permits, or porch pickup.

crosodo.com/nb/florida/citrus-county-discuss

Classifieds

Resources for cottage food & home bakers · crosodo.com/advertise

NATIONAL

SUPPLIES

Advertise here — Supplies

Reach home bakers across the country. crosodo.com/advertise

COURSES

Advertise here — Courses

Reach home bakers across the country. crosodo.com/advertise

INSURANCE

Advertise here — Insurance

Reach home bakers across the country. crosodo.com/advertise

LOCAL

Advertise here

Reach home bakers in Citrus County, Florida. Supply stores, farmers markets, kitchen rentals, and bakery services welcome.

crosodo.com/advertise

Your business here

Local cottage food listings, kitchen rentals, co-packer referrals, and community events — post yours on Crosodo.

crosodo.com/nb/florida/citrus-county-discuss

Free ad space available

Let us know if you're a non-profit or community organization. Farmers markets, kitchen rentals, and cottage food events near you welcome.

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