

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Nueces County

Texas · Corpus Christi · FIPS 48355 · Population 353,245 ·
Crosodo Index #891*

STATE BASELINE

Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq.; no license/registration required; no inspection;
\$150,000 annual sales cap; direct and limited indirect sales

STATE TIER	ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)	CONFIDENCE	LAST VERIFIED
Great	150000	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

Nueces County, Texas — permit, pickup, and label steps before the full county rules.

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes

STATE SALES CAP

150000

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION

No

PETS

**No specific state pet restriction;
general sanitation required**

BEFORE YOU SELL FROM THIS ADDRESS

- ☐ **1. Menu** — Confirm each product under Texas 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
- ☐ Texas home-kitchen disclaimer (see live label one-pager)

CONTINUE ONLINE

Open the live county page →

Texas label one-pager →

Local notes & questions →

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

TEXAS: NUECES COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #891* · FIPS 48355 · Corpus Christi

Nueces County

Population 353,245 · State baseline: Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq.; no license/registration required; no inspection; \$150,000 annual sales cap; direct and limited indirect sales · **MEDIUM**

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (No TCS foods; must label with required disclaimer; no state inspection or license required)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state pet restriction; general sanitation required

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (State preemption does not override local zoning. Corpus Christi (primary city) and unincorporated Nueces County may require home occupation permit; operator should check with local planning department)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

No (No routine inspection; complaint-based investigation possible)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — No TCS foods; must label with required disclaimer; no state inspection or license required
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state pet restriction; general sanitation required
WATER SUPPLY	Potable water supply required
HANDWASHING	Standard food safety handwashing practices
FOOD STORAGE	Stored in sanitary conditions away from contaminants

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	No — No routine inspection; complaint-based investigation possible
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — State preemption does not override local zoning. Corpus Christi (primary city) and unincorporated Nueces County may require home occupation permit; operator should check with local planning department
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct to consumer at home, farmers markets, events; indirect sales to restaurants and retailers allowed up to \$150,000 annual cap
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified

Relevant county code

Not identified

RESEARCH NOTES

Texas cottage food law is very permissive at state level. No county-specific overlay found for Nueces County. Local municipality (Corpus Christi) may have home occupation zoning rules not researched here.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.nuecesco.com>

<https://www.dshs.texas.gov/food-establishments/cottage-food-production-operations>

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

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Nueces County	San Patricio County	Aransas County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	—
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	—
PETS ALLOWED	No specific state pet restriction; general sanitation required	Not specified in state law	—
INSPECTION REQUIRED	No	No	—
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	—
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	—
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Direct to consumer at home, farmers markets, events; indirect sales to restaurants and retailers allowed up to \$150,000 annual cap	Direct and limited indirect sales at designated venues; delivery permitted in-state	—
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies	Varies	—
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	—
RESTRICTIONS	No TCS foods; must label with required disclaimer; no state inspection or license required	Annual sales cap \$150,000. No food handler cert required. No state registration required. No inspection required. Non-TCS foods only. Limit...	—
FOOD STORAGE	Stored in sanitary conditions away from contaminants	Appropriate storage for shelf-stable products	—
POPULATION	353,245	68,942	24,048

State context — Texas cottage food law

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

STATUTE

Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq.

ANNUAL SALES CAP

150000

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

No

FOOD HANDLER CERT

No

KITCHEN INSPECTION

No

DIRECT SALES ONLY

No

INDIRECT SALES

Limited (see notes) — Sales must be made directly to consumers or to a 'cottage food vendor' (a new category created by SB 541 in 2025 – a person with a contractual relationship who sells on behalf of the cottage food operation to consumers in-state). Cottage food products may not be sold as ingredients to a food service establishment. No retail grocery store or wholesale sales permitted under the pre-2025 framework; SB 541 (2025) adds the cottage food vendor intermediary option. Products must be delivered to consumer or vendor at point of sale or consumer-designated location.

For the full state-level analysis including the verbatim statute text, see the [Texas cottage food law report](#) on Crosodo, or open the live guide: crosodo.com/states/texas.

STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

State statute: <https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/HS/htm/HS.437.htm>

State dept cottage food page: <https://www.dshs.texas.gov/food-establishments/cottage-food-production-operations>

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

Questions about Nueces 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/texas/nueces-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 Nueces County, Texas. 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/texas/nueces-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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