

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Taylor County

Texas · Abilene · FIPS 48441 · Population 143,029 · Crosodo Index #968*

STATE BASELINE

Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq.

STATE TIER

Great

ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)

150000

CONFIDENCE

MEDIUM

LAST VERIFIED

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

Taylor 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

Not prohibited by state law. Kitchen must maintain sanitary conditions.

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: TAYLOR COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #968* · FIPS 48441 · Abilene

Taylor County

Population 143,029 · State baseline: Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq. · **MEDIUM**

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Annual gross income capped at \$150,000 (raised to \$150,000 by SB 541, 2025). No registration, permit, or inspection required before beginning operations. Health departments have no regulatory authority to inspect cottage food operations.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Not prohibited by state law. Kitchen must maintain sanitary conditions.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (Taylor County (unincorporated areas) zoning code may have home occupation provisions. The City of Abilene has a separate home occupation ordinance. Texas state law provides strong preemption of local health regulations for cottage food, but local zoning/home occupation rules may still apply for residential business use.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

No (Health departments may only act to prevent an immediate and serious threat to human life or health; no routine inspections.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Annual gross income capped at \$150,000 (raised to \$150,000 by SB 541, 2025). No registration, permit, or inspection required before beginning operations. Health departments have no regulatory authority to inspect cottage food operations.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Not prohibited by state law. Kitchen must maintain sanitary conditions.
WATER SUPPLY	Potable water required; no specific testing mandate for cottage food producers.
HANDWASHING	Required per general food safety good practices; no state-mandated facility standard for cottage food operations.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only. Products stored in sealed, food-safe containers. Temperature-controlled storage not required for cottage food products.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	No — Health departments may only act to prevent an immediate and serious threat to human life or health; no routine inspections.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — Taylor County (unincorporated areas) zoning code may have home occupation provisions. The City of Abilene has a separate home occupation ordinance. Texas state law provides strong preemption of local health regulations for cottage food, but local zoning/home occupation rules may still apply for residential business use.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Sales permitted from home, at farmers markets, events, online, and third-party delivery. Texas allows indirect sales to restaurants and retail with restrictions. All sales must be within Texas.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified in state statute for cottage food operations.

Relevant county code

Taylor County, TX zoning ordinance (unincorporated areas); City of Abilene home occupation regulations.

RESEARCH NOTES

State baseline (TX) confirmed: Tex. Health & Safety §437.001, \$150,000 cap per SB 541 (2025). County govt URL provided (taylorcountytexas.org) but specific cottage food or home occupation provisions not independently retrieved. Abilene is the county seat and a mid-sized city with its own rules. Texas cottage food law strongly preempts local health authority; zoning home occupation may still apply. Confidence medium — county website confirmed but specific ordinance provisions not retrieved.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.taylorcountytexas.org>

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

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

<https://www.taylorcountytexas.org>

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

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Taylor County	Callahan County	Coleman County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	Not prohibited by state law. Kitchen must maintain sanitary conditions.	No specific pet restriction in state cottage food law.	No specific pet restriction in state cottage food law.
INSPECTION REQUIRED	No	No	No
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Yes	Yes
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Sales permitted from home, at farmers markets, events, online, and third-party delivery. Texas allows indirect sales to restaurants and ret...	All channels permitted including direct to consumer, indirect sales, farmers markets, online, delivery, and through a registered cottage fo...	All channels permitted including direct to consumer, indirect sales, farmers markets, online, delivery, and through a registered cottage fo...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies	Varies	Varies
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Annual gross income capped at \$150,000 (raised to \$150,000 by SB 541, 2025). No registration, permit, or inspection required before beginni...	Texas cottage food law (SB 541, 2025) is highly permissive. No registration required for most operators (registration optional for address ...	Texas cottage food law (SB 541, 2025) is highly permissive. No registration required for most operators (registration optional for address ...
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only. Products stored in sealed, food-safe containers. Temperature-controlled storage not required for cottage food products.	Non-TCS foods or TCS foods held at proper temperatures required. No refrigeration mandate for shelf-stable products.	Non-TCS foods or TCS foods held at proper temperatures required. No refrigeration mandate for shelf-stable products.
POPULATION	143,029	13,869	7,808

State context — Texas cottage food law

Taylor 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 Taylor 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/taylor-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 Taylor 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/taylor-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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