

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Colusa County

California · Colusa · FIPS 06011 · Population 22,074 · Crosodo
Index #3135*

STATE BASELINE

Cal. Health & Safety Code §113758; CA tier: Good; CDPH cottage food operations program

STATE TIER	ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)	CONFIDENCE	LAST VERIFIED
Good	Tiered (see notes)	MEDIUM	2026-05-06

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.

CALIFORNIA: COLUSA COUNTY

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Colusa County

Population 22,074 · State baseline: Cal. Health & Safety Code §113758; CA tier: Good; CDPH cottage food operations program · **MEDIUM**

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

True

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

False

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific county rule; CDPH guidance recommends pets excluded from food prep area during production

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

True (California state law (GOV §51035) preempts local zoning restrictions on cottage food operations. Colusa County Environmental Health processes CFO registrations (Class A) and permits (Class B). Agricultural county in Sacramento Valley; most residences are in unincorporated areas. Contact Colusa County Environmental Health for registration.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

True

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Class A: complaint-based only; Class B: annual inspection by county Environmental Health (Class A - complaint only; Class B - routine annual inspection)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED True

SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN False

PET RESTRICTIONS No specific county rule; CDPH guidance recommends pets excluded from food prep area during production

WATER SUPPLY Potable water required; private well users must have water tested regularly by state-certified lab

HANDWASHING Required per Cal. Health & Safety Code §113758 and CDPH cottage food guidance

FOOD STORAGE Standard food safety storage per CDPH approved foods list; all products must be non-potentially hazardous

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED Class A: complaint-based only; Class B: annual inspection by county Environmental Health — Class A - complaint only; Class B - routine annual inspection

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT True — California state law (GOV §51035) preempts local zoning restrictions on cottage food operations. Colusa County Environmental Health processes CFO registrations (Class A) and permits (Class B). Agricultural county in Sacramento Valley; most residences are in unincorporated areas. Contact Colusa County Environmental Health for registration.

LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE County unincorporated areas generally do not require a county business license; City of Colusa may require city business license for city-based operations

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	True
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	No commercial signage per typical CA home occupation rules; state law preempts restrictions on cottage food sales
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct sales and delivery within California only; no interstate sales per state law
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	One non-family employee maximum per Cal. Health & Safety Code §113758

Relevant county code

Cal. Health & Safety Code §113758 (state CFO law); GOV §51035 (zoning preemption)

RESEARCH NOTES

No Colusa County-specific cottage food restrictions found beyond state baseline. Predominantly agricultural Sacramento Valley county. CFO registration/permit obtained through Colusa County Environmental Health. State law preempts local zoning restrictions on CFOs. Class A annual gross sales cap ~\$86,206 (2025, CPI-adjusted); Class B ~\$172,411.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.colusacounty.ca.gov/publicservices/environmentalhealth.html>

<https://www.colusacounty.ca.gov/publicservices/planning.html>

<https://www.colusacounty.ca.gov>

https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/codes_displaySection.xhtml?lawCode=HSC§ionNum=113758

https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CEH/DFDCS/CDPH%20Document%20Library/FDB/FoodSafetyProgram/Cottage%20Food%20Operations/CFO_Faq.pdf

Questions? Join the Crosodo Forum to discuss your county's specific zoning rules at <https://crosodo.com/nb/california/colusa-county-discuss>

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Colusa County	Glenn County	Lake County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	True	True	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	False	False	No
PETS ALLOWED	No specific county rule; CDPH guidance recommends pets excluded from food prep area during production	No specific county rule; CDPH guidance recommends pets excluded from food prep area during production	Not specified but standard sanitation expected
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Class A: complaint-based only; Class B: annual inspection by county Environmental Health	Class A: complaint-based only; Class B: annual inspection by county Environmental Health	Conditional
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	True	True	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	No commercial signage per typical CA home occupation rules; state law preempts restrictions on cottage food sales	No commercial signage per typical CA home occupation rules; state law preempts restrictions on cottage food sales	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Direct sales and delivery within California only; no interstate sales per state law	Direct sales and delivery within California only; no interstate sales per state law	Class A: direct sales from home or at community events within California. Class B: direct and indirect sales through retailers/restaurants ...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	True	True	Yes
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	County unincorporated areas generally do not require a county business license; City of Colusa may require city business license for city-b...	County unincorporated areas generally do not require a county business license; City of Willows may require city business license	Yes
RESTRICTIONS	—	—	Class A (direct sales only): annual self-certification registration with Lake County Environmental Health required. Class B (direct + indir...
FOOD STORAGE	Standard food safety storage per CDPH approved foods list; all products must be non-potentially hazardous	Standard food safety storage per CDPH approved foods list; all products must be non-potentially hazardous	Shelf-stable non-PHF products; no acidified or low-acid canned foods
POPULATION	21,811	28,657	68,024

State context — California cottage food law

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

STATUTE

Cal. Health & Safety Code §113758

ANNUAL SALES CAP

Tiered (see notes)

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Yes

FOOD HANDLER CERT

Yes (specific course)

KITCHEN INSPECTION

No

DIRECT SALES ONLY

No

INDIRECT SALES

Limited (see notes) — Class B permit holders may sell indirectly through retail stores and restaurants statewide; Class A registrants are limited to direct sales only and may not sell through any retail or wholesale venue.

For the full state-level analysis including the verbatim statute text, see the [California cottage food law report](#).

STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

State statute: https://leginfo.ca.gov/faces/codes_displaySection.xhtml?lawCode=HSC§ionNum=113758

State dept cottage food page: https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CEH/DFDCS/CDPH%20Document%20Library/FDB/FoodSafetyProgram/Cottage%20Food%20Operations/CFO_Faq.pdf

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

Questions? Join the Crosodo Forum to discuss Colusa County's specific zoning rules, permits, and what other home bakers are seeing locally.

<https://crosodo.com/nb/california/colusa-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 Colusa County, California. 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 free on the Crosodo Forum.

crosodo.com/nb/california/colusa-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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