

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.

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

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.

<p>STATUTE Fla. Stat. §500.80</p> <p>REGISTRATION REQUIRED No</p> <p>KITCHEN INSPECTION Upon-complaint</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>ANNUAL SALES CAP 250000</p> <p>FOOD HANDLER CERT No</p> <p>DIRECT SALES ONLY No</p>
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For the full state-level analysis including the verbatim statute text, see the [Florida cottage food law report](#).

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?

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

<https://crosodo.com/nb/florida/citrus-county-discuss>
