

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

# DeSoto County

Florida · — · FIPS 12027 · Population 36,744 · Crosodo Index #3091\*

STATE BASELINE

Fl. Stat. §500.80; FL tier: Great

STATE TIER

Great

ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)

250000

CONFIDENCE

MEDIUM

LAST VERIFIED

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.

FLORIDA: DESOTO COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #3091\* · FIPS 12027 · —

# DeSoto County

Population 36,744 · State baseline: Fla. Stat. §500.80; FL tier: Great · **MEDIUM**

### QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

**HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?**

True

**SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?**

False

**PETS ALLOWED?**

No state or county-specific rule for cottage food

**HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?**

Likely; verify with DeSoto County Building & Zoning (No DeSoto County-specific home occupation ordinance text located in search. DeSoto County is a small agricultural county (pop. ~37,000) with county seat Arcadia. Local business tax receipt and possible zoning approval for home-based food business likely required. State preempts county from banning cottage food.)

**ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?**

True

**INSPECTION REQUIRED?**

Upon-complaint only (State inspection only upon receipt of complaint per Fla. Stat. §500.80(7); county cannot add inspections)

### Home kitchen rules

**HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED** True

**SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN** False

**PET RESTRICTIONS** No state or county-specific rule for cottage food

**WATER SUPPLY** No state requirement for cottage food; county may have residential water standards

**HANDWASHING** No state requirement for cottage food registration; standard GMP expected

**FOOD STORAGE** Non-TCS (non-temperature controlled) foods only; standard sanitary storage

### Inspection & permitting

**INSPECTION REQUIRED** Upon-complaint only — State inspection only upon receipt of complaint per Fla. Stat. §500.80(7); county cannot add inspections

**HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT** Likely; verify with DeSoto County Building & Zoning — No DeSoto County-specific home occupation ordinance text located in search. DeSoto County is a small agricultural county (pop. ~37,000) with county seat Arcadia. Local business tax receipt and possible zoning approval for home-based food business likely required. State preempts county from banning cottage food.

**LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE** Likely; DeSoto County local business tax receipt; contact DeSoto County Tax Collector

### Customer-facing rules

**ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP** True

**ON-SITE SIGNAGE** Must comply with DeSoto County signage ordinances

**DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES** Direct-to-consumer; online/mail-order allowed; shipping within and across state lines via USPS or commercial carrier; no wholesale/consignment; max \$250,000 annual gross sales

**MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME** No state limit; local home occupation rules may apply

**RESEARCH NOTES**

No DeSoto County-specific cottage food or home occupation ordinance surfaced in search. Small agricultural county. State baseline (Fla. Stat. §500.80) governs; county cannot restrict cottage food production. Local business tax receipt and potential home occupation permit likely required.

**SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME**

<https://www.doh.state.fl.us/chdDeSoto/>

<https://www.desotocountyfl.gov/building-zoning>

<https://www.desotocountyfl.gov>

<https://ccmedia.fdacs.gov/content/download/70108/file/Cottage-Food-Operations.pdf>

<https://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/publication/FS425>

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

## State context — Florida cottage food law

DeSoto 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.

---

<b>STATUTE</b> Fla. Stat. §500.80	<b>ANNUAL SALES CAP</b> 250000
<b>REGISTRATION REQUIRED</b> No	<b>FOOD HANDLER CERT</b> No
<b>KITCHEN INSPECTION</b> Upon-complaint	<b>DIRECT SALES ONLY</b> No
<b>INDIRECT SALES</b> 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](#).

---

### 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](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 DeSoto County's specific zoning rules, permits, and what other home bakers are seeing locally.

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

---