

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Laurens County

Georgia · Dublin · FIPS 13175 · Population 49,407 · Crosodo Index #2318*

STATE BASELINE

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19

STATE TIER

Okay

ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)

—

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.

GEORGIA: LAURENS COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2318* · FIPS 13175 · Dublin

Laurens County

Population 49,407 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Since July 2025 (HB 398): no license or fee required. Complaint-based inspection only. Almost any non-potentially hazardous food allowed including most condiments, pickles, syrups, vinegars, salsas, etc. Interstate sales now allowed. Private well water requires annual coliform testing.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Not specified in current state cottage food law (HB 398).

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (No specific Laurens County cottage food ordinances found. City of Dublin and Laurens County may have local home occupation permit requirements. Recommend verifying with Laurens County Planning/Zoning and City of Dublin.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (No routine inspection under HB 398 (effective July 2025). Complaint-based inspection only.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Since July 2025 (HB 398): no license or fee required. Complaint-based inspection only. Almost any non-potentially hazardous food allowed including most condiments, pickles, syrups, vinegars, salsas, etc. Interstate sales now allowed. Private well water requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Not specified in current state cottage food law (HB 398).
WATER SUPPLY	Annual coliform water testing required if using a private water source.
HANDWASHING	Standard food safety practices; no specific requirement under new law.
FOOD STORAGE	Products must be non-potentially hazardous.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — No routine inspection under HB 398 (effective July 2025). Complaint-based inspection only.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — No specific Laurens County cottage food ordinances found. City of Dublin and Laurens County may have local home occupation permit requirements. Recommend verifying with Laurens County Planning/Zoning and City of Dublin.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398: online sales, wholesale/retail/restaurant/direct-to-consumer sales all allowed. Interstate sales allowed (unusual). No GDA licensing inspection.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified in state cottage food law.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq.; HB 398 (2025); Laurens County/Dublin zoning codes

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food law — no license/fee, interstate sales allowed, much broader food list, complaint-based inspection only. This is a significant improvement from the previous 'Okay' tier. Private well water testing (annual coliform) still required. Laurens County is in central Georgia. No county-specific rules found.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Laurens County	Bleckley County	Dodge County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	Not specified in current state cottage food law (HB 398).	Not specified in state law; products must not be contaminated	Not specified in state law; products must not be contaminated
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint	Upon-complaint	Upon-complaint
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Under HB 398: online sales, wholesale/retail/restaurant/direct-to-consumer sales all allowed. Interstate sales allowed (unusual). No GDA li...	Under HB 398 (eff. July 2025): direct-to-consumer sales, online sales, sales to retail stores, restaurants, and interstate sales are all pe...	Under HB 398 (eff. July 2025): direct-to-consumer sales, online sales, sales to retail stores, restaurants, and interstate sales are all pe...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Since July 2025 (HB 398): no license or fee required. Complaint-based inspection only. Almost any non-potentially hazardous food allowed in...	Must be produced in operator’s primary domestic residence home kitchen only. Secondary homes, vacation homes, or motor homes do not qualify...	Must be produced in operator’s primary domestic residence home kitchen only. Secondary homes, vacation homes, or motor homes do not qualify...
FOOD STORAGE	Products must be non-potentially hazardous.	Ingredients and finished products must be stored appropriately in the domestic residence	Ingredients and finished products must be stored appropriately in the domestic residence
POPULATION	49,407	12,413	19,977

State context — Georgia cottage food law

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

STATUTE O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19	ANNUAL SALES CAP —
REGISTRATION REQUIRED No	FOOD HANDLER CERT Yes (specific course)
KITCHEN INSPECTION Upon-complaint	DIRECT SALES ONLY No
INDIRECT SALES Yes — As of July 1, 2025 (HB 398), Georgia allows wholesale, online, retail store, restaurant, and mail-order sales; third-party sellers must display cottage food products separately and label the section as products from residential kitchens exempt from state inspection.	

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

STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

State statute: <https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

State dept cottage food page: <https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

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

Questions?

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

<https://crosodo.com/nb/georgia/laurens-county-discuss>
