

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Brown County

Nebraska · Ainsworth · FIPS 31017 · Population 2,877 ·
Crosodo Index #2875*

STATE BASELINE	STATE TIER	ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)	CONFIDENCE	LAST VERIFIED
—	Good	—	MEDIUM	

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.

NEBRASKA: BROWN COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2875* · FIPS 31017 · Ainsworth

Brown County

Population 2,877 · State baseline: — · **MEDIUM****QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY**

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

—

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

—

PETS ALLOWED?

—

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

No

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

—

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

—

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED —

SEPARATE DEDICATED
KITCHEN —

PET RESTRICTIONS —

WATER SUPPLY —

HANDWASHING —

FOOD STORAGE —

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED —

HOME OCCUPATION
PERMIT No

LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE —

Customer-facing rulesON-SITE CUSTOMER
PICKUP —

ON-SITE SIGNAGE —

DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES —

MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME —

RESEARCH NOTES

Brown County is a rural Nebraska county. No county-specific cottage food or home occupation zoning ordinance was identified for the unincorporated county area. Nebraska's cottage food law (Neb. Rev. Stat. §81-2,280) requires registration and food handler certification but has no sales cap. As of LB262 (July 2024), some TCS foods are also permitted. County-level zoning is minimal or absent in most rural NE counties; state law governs.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

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

State context — Nebraska cottage food law

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

STATUTE	ANNUAL SALES CAP
Neb. Rev. Stat. §81-2,280 (producer of food at private home); §81-2,239 et seq. (Nebraska Pure Food Act)	—
REGISTRATION REQUIRED	FOOD HANDLER CERT
Yes	Yes
KITCHEN INSPECTION	DIRECT SALES ONLY
No	Yes
INDIRECT SALES	
No — Sales must be direct-to-consumer. Wholesale to restaurants, grocery stores, or distributors is not permitted under the cottage food framework. Non-TCS foods may be mailed; TCS foods must be delivered in person by the producer within 2 hours.	

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

STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

State statute: <https://nebraskalegislature.gov/laws/statutes.php?statute=81-2,239.05>

State dept cottage food page: https://nda.nebraska.gov/foods/processed_food/cottage_foods.html

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

Questions?

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

<https://crosodo.com/nb/nebraska/brown-county-discuss>
