



Homemade Food Freedom Act

During the 2021 Oklahoma legislative session, House Bill 1032 titled Homemade Food Freedom Act was enacted and replaced the Home Bakery Act of 2013. The Homemade Food Freedom Act (HFFA) also modified the Honey Sales Act labeling requirements.

According to HB 1032, a “producer” is a person who produces a homemade food product in a home food establishment. A producer can be any age and citizenship, if they have a home or dwelling where they live in Oklahoma and in which they safely produce a qualified food.

HFFA requires that foods are properly labeled, limits gross annual sales to \$75,000, and a food safety class must be taken if making time-temperature-controlled for safety (TCS) foods.

Food/drinks that ARE NOT permissible for sale under this Act include:

- Meat (includes beef; pork; lamb; wild-game and snakes.)
- Meat by-products (includes such items as lard; pigskins; etc.)
- Poultry (chicken; turkey, wild-game birds)
- Raw eggs
- Seafood (includes fresh-water fish)
- Casseroles, empanadas, fried pies, tamales, etc. that contain meat, poultry or seafood.
- Cannabis-containing products
- Marijuana-containing products
- Beverages containing alcohol
- Unpasteurized milk-containing products
- Unprocessed fruits (fresh, whole apples... these would be a farm product)
- Unprocessed vegetables (fresh, whole carrots...these would be a farm product)
- Unprocessed nuts (peanuts in the shell...these would be a farm product)
- Pet foods and treats (guidance under Consumer Protective Service regulations)



Food items prepared under the HFFA are exempt from Oklahoma State Department of Health licensing, inspection, and regulation. The Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry (ODAFF) is the primary state agency responsible for the Food Freedom Act. If serving or selling food items prepared in a home kitchen, please visit <https://ag.ok.gov/divisions/food-safety/> for more information.

PEST MANAGEMENT

Fruit Flies (*Drosophila* spp.)

Also known as vinegar flies, fruit flies are attracted to sweet or fermented liquids such as liquor, syrup, soda pop and vinegar, in addition to ripening and rotting fruit. Fruit flies will also breed in drains, garbage disposals, empty bottles and cans, trash containers, mops and cleaning rags. All that is needed for development is a moist film of fermenting material. Females lay eggs in and around these materials upon which their tiny larvae feed. The reproductive potential of fruit flies is enormous; given the opportunity, they will lay about 500 eggs. The entire lifecycle from egg to adult can be completed in about a week. The gnat-sized adults typically have tan-colored bodies and red eyes.

Fruit flies are primarily nuisance pests. However, they also have the potential to contaminate food with bacteria and other disease-producing organisms.

Fruit fly traps can be made by placing a thin layer (~1mL) of vinegar and oil into small containers and leaving them in high fly traffic areas for two-four weeks.

Drain Flies (*Psychodidae* spp.)

About 1/8-inch long, adult drain flies are slightly larger than other small filth flies. Their broad, hairy wings have given rise to another name: moth fly. They also have been called sewer flies,

because they infest raw sewage. Drain fly adults are often noticed resting on bathroom walls. The larvae survive submerged in the gelatinous muck that accumulates in floor, sink and toilet drains, by extending their breathing tubes to the surface for air.

To eliminate infestations, drains and traps should be cleaned with a wire brush and/or drain cleaner.

Drain flies are typically found living in floor drains. They feed on decomposing food and sewage. Their bodies are black and they're slightly larger than fruit flies. They lay their eggs in the biofilm layer that is found inside of drains. You can get rid of them by using foaming drain cleaner to clean the floor drains you find them around; this will flush away their larvae and eggs. Set up the same traps that you would for fruit flies to get rid of the living flies.

Sanitation

The key to managing all filth flies is sanitation. Eliminating fly breeding sites, i.e., the material to which they are attracted to and on which they lay eggs, is usually sufficient to eliminate and prevent fly infestations. Conversely, without thorough sanitation, other control methods are largely ineffective. Therefore, trash should be kept in sealed containers (in trash bags and/or cans with tight-fitting lids). Dumpsters should be kept as clean as possible, emptied regularly and kept as far away from buildings as is practical. Manure and other decaying plant and animal material should be promptly removed. Also, eliminate areas of excessive moisture.

