

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Calhoun County

Alabama · Anniston · FIPS 01015 · Population 116,162 ·
Crosodo Index #757*

STATE BASELINE

Ala. Code §22-20-5.1 (as amended 2021); no sales cap; food handler cert required; no inspection; registration required; direct sales only (online/in-state shipping allowed)

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

How to start — 60-second path

Calhoun County, Alabama — permit, pickup, and label steps before the full county rules.

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes

STATE SALES CAP

—

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION

No

PETS

Standard sanitation practices; no specific state prohibition for standard cottage foods.

BEFORE YOU SELL FROM THIS ADDRESS

- ☐ **1. Menu** — Confirm each product under Alabama cottage food rules (county cannot expand a state ban).
- ☐ **2. Pickup & zoning** — Home occupation and porch pickup cells above; HOA/lease may still block customer traffic.
- ☐ **3. Local tax / license** — Business license or sales tax certificate if your city/parish requires it (common even with no state food permit).
- ☐ **4. Training** — Food handler or state registration before market day.
- ☐ **5. Labels** — Disclaimer, allergens, ingredients, net quantity, producer info.
- ☐ **6. Call if unclear** — County health and planning for your exact address.

LABEL FIELDS TO INCLUDE

- ☐ Product name · producer name · address (or allowed alternative)
- ☐ Ingredients by weight · major allergens · net weight/quantity
- ☐ Alabama home-kitchen disclaimer (see live label one-pager)

CONTINUE ONLINE

[Open the live county page →](#)

[Alabama label one-pager →](#)

[Local notes & questions →](#)

Planning path only — not legal advice. Rules change. Always verify with state and local offices before selling.

ALABAMA: CALHOUN COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #757* · FIPS 01015 · Anniston

Calhoun County

Population 116,162 · State baseline: Ala. Code §22-20-5.1 (as amended 2021); no sales cap; food handler cert required; no inspection; registration required; direct sales only (online/in-state shipping allowed) · **MEDIUM**

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Alabama allows non-potentially hazardous cottage foods from home kitchen. Producer must complete state-approved food safety course and obtain county health department approval. Calhoun County Environmental Health administers local approvals.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Standard sanitation practices; no specific state prohibition for standard cottage foods.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Alabama cottage food producers must obtain county health department approval from Calhoun County Environmental Health. Application requires proof of food safety training, sample label, and product list. Fees vary by county. General home occupation zoning permits may apply separately.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

No (Alabama does not require routine kitchen inspections. County health departments review applications and may investigate complaints.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Alabama allows non-potentially hazardous cottage foods from home kitchen. Producer must complete state-approved food safety course and obtain county health department approval. Calhoun County Environmental Health administers local approvals.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Standard sanitation practices; no specific state prohibition for standard cottage foods.
WATER SUPPLY	Potable water required per state food safety standards.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification (state-approved course) required before selling.
FOOD STORAGE	Shelf-stable non-TCS products. Freeze-dried foods require water-activity testing. Acidified foods require pH testing.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	No — Alabama does not require routine kitchen inspections. County health departments review applications and may investigate complaints.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Alabama cottage food producers must obtain county health department approval from Calhoun County Environmental Health. Application requires proof of food safety training, sample label, and product list. Fees vary by county. General home occupation zoning permits may apply separately.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Alabama allows direct sales and online/in-state shipping (2021 amendment). No interstate shipping. No wholesale or retail store channels.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No specific state limit; local zoning rules may apply.

Relevant county code

Ala. Code §22-20-5.1

RESEARCH NOTES

State baseline applied (AL tier Good). Calhoun County includes Anniston (pop ~22K) and Oxford in northeastern Alabama. No county-specific URLs provided. Alabama county health departments vary in fee structure; contact Calhoun County Environmental Health for current specifics. Confidence medium.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.calhouncounty.gov>

<https://www.alabamapublichealth.gov/foodsafety/cottage-food-law.html>

Questions about this county? Local notes and a place to leave a question: crosodo.com/nb/alabama/calhoun-county-discuss

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Calhoun County	Etowah County	St. Clair County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	Standard sanitation practices; no specific state prohibition for standard cottage foods.	No specific state pet restriction, but standard sanitation practices apply.	No specific state restriction; county health approval may review kitchen conditions.
INSPECTION REQUIRED	No	Yes	Upon-complaint
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Alabama allows direct sales and online/in-state shipping (2021 amendment). No interstate shipping. No wholesale or retail store channels.	Direct-to-consumer sales only. No wholesale or indirect sales. Online and in-state shipping permitted. Out-of-state shipping prohibited.	Direct sales only. In-state online sales and shipping allowed. Home pickup, farmers markets, events permitted.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Alabama allows non-potentially hazardous cottage foods from home kitchen. Producer must complete state-approved food safety course and obta...	Alabama requires state-approved food safety course completion and approval from the local county health department before selling. Non-pote...	Alabama cottage food law (§22-20-5.1, 2021 amendment): no sales cap, direct sales only. Must complete state-approved food safety course and...
FOOD STORAGE	Shelf-stable non-TCS products. Freeze-dried foods require water-activity testing. Acidified foods require pH testing.	Non-potentially hazardous foods only. Meat, poultry, fish, all perishable/temperature-controlled foods, low-acid canned goods, juices prohi...	Non-potentially hazardous shelf-stable foods only.
POPULATION	116,162	103,348	91,719

State context — Alabama cottage food law

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

STATUTE

Ala. Code §22-20-5.1

ANNUAL SALES CAP

—

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Yes

FOOD HANDLER CERT

Yes (specific course)

KITCHEN INSPECTION

No

DIRECT SALES ONLY

Yes

INDIRECT SALES

No — Indirect sales to grocery stores, restaurants, or wholesale are not permitted; producers may use an agent for delivery but cannot sell through retailers.

For the full state-level analysis including the verbatim statute text, see the [Alabama cottage food law report](#) on Crosodo, or open the live guide: crosodo.com/states/alabama.

STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

State statute: <https://alison.legislature.state.al.us/code-of-alabama>

State dept cottage food page: <https://www.alabamapublichealth.gov/foodsafety/cottage-food-law.html>

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

Questions about Calhoun County? Local notes and a place to leave a question are on Crosodo. We monitor new threads — start with zoning, permits, or porch pickup.

crosodo.com/nb/alabama/calhoun-county-discuss

Classifieds

Resources for cottage food & home bakers · crosodo.com/advertise

NATIONAL

SUPPLIES

Advertise here — Supplies

Reach home bakers across the country. crosodo.com/advertise

COURSES

Advertise here — Courses

Reach home bakers across the country. crosodo.com/advertise

INSURANCE

Advertise here — Insurance

Reach home bakers across the country. crosodo.com/advertise

LOCAL

Advertise here

Reach home bakers in Calhoun County, Alabama. Supply stores, farmers markets, kitchen rentals, and bakery services welcome.

crosodo.com/advertise

Your business here

Local cottage food listings, kitchen rentals, co-packer referrals, and community events — post yours on Crosodo.

crosodo.com/nb/alabama/calhoun-county-discuss

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