

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Colbert County

Alabama · Tuscumbia · FIPS 01033 · Population 57,270 ·
Crosodo Index #2289*

STATE BASELINE

Ala. Code §22-20-5.1 (amended 2021, Act 2021-461)

STATE TIER

Good

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.

How to start — 60-second path

Colbert 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?

Conditional

INSPECTION

Upon-complaint

PETS

No explicit state or county rule found; standard good manufacturing practices apply.

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: COLBERT COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2289* · FIPS 01033 · Tuscumbia

Colbert County

Population 57,270 · State baseline: Ala. Code §22-20-5.1 (amended 2021, Act 2021-461) · **MEDIUM**

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Producer must complete a state-approved food safety course before selling. Must register/get approval from local county health department (Colbert County Health Department). Products limited to non-potentially hazardous foods. Direct sales only (no wholesale to stores). Online sales and in-state shipping permitted since 2021 amendment.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No explicit state or county rule found; standard good manufacturing practices apply.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Colbert County Health Department approval required before selling (application and fees vary; typically includes proof of food safety training, sample label, and product list). No specific county zoning ordinance cottage food override identified.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Conditional

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (ADPH or county health department may investigate upon consumer complaint or foodborne illness report.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED

Yes — Producer must complete a state-approved food safety course before selling. Must register/get approval from local county health department (Colbert County Health Department). Products limited to non-potentially hazardous foods. Direct sales only (no wholesale to stores). Online sales and in-state shipping permitted since 2021 amendment.

SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN

No

PET RESTRICTIONS

No explicit state or county rule found; standard good manufacturing practices apply.

WATER SUPPLY

No specific state requirement; primary residence kitchen assumed.

HANDWASHING

Covered under food safety training requirement; standard sanitation practices.

FOOD STORAGE

Non-potentially hazardous shelf-stable products only. Proper labeling and storage required.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED

Upon-complaint — ADPH or county health department may investigate upon consumer complaint or foodborne illness report.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT

Conditional — Colbert County Health Department approval required before selling (application and fees vary; typically includes proof of food safety training, sample label, and product list). No specific county zoning ordinance cottage food override identified.

LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE

Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Conditional
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct to consumer. In-person sales at home, farmers markets, events. Online and in-state shipping allowed since 2021.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified in AL statute.

Relevant county code

Ala. Code §22-20-5.1; Colbert County Health Department application process

RESEARCH NOTES

No county-specific cottage food rules found for Colbert County. State baseline applies: food safety course required (e.g., Learn2Serve ~\$7 or ACES course), then approval from Colbert County Health Department. No sales cap since 2021 amendment. Acidified foods (pickles) require pH testing by approved authority. Freeze-dried foods require water activity testing. No county govt or health URLs available in input; state URL may be inactive (404 reported).

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.colbertcounty.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/colbert-county-discuss

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Colbert County	Lauderdale County	Franklin County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	No explicit state or county rule found; standard good manufacturing practices apply.	No specific state restriction; county health approval may review kitchen conditions.	No specific state restriction; standard sanitation best practices apply.
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint	Upon-complaint	No
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Conditional	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Yes
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Direct to consumer. In-person sales at home, farmers markets, events. Online and in-state shipping allowed since 2021.	Direct sales only. In-state online sales and shipping allowed per 2021 amendment. Home pickup, farmers markets, and events permitted.	Direct sales to consumers permitted in person, by phone, online, or via mail within Alabama. Delivery may be in person, by an agent, or by ...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Yes
RESTRICTIONS	Producer must complete a state-approved food safety course before selling. Must register/get approval from local county health department (...)	Alabama cottage food law (§22-20-5.1, 2021 amendment): no sales cap, direct sales only. Must complete state-approved food safety course and...	Must complete a state-approved food safety course (e.g., ACES course, \$25) before selling. Must file paperwork (food safety course certific...
FOOD STORAGE	Non-potentially hazardous shelf-stable products only. Proper labeling and storage required.	Non-potentially hazardous shelf-stable foods only.	Non-potentially hazardous foods only; must be shelf-stable and not require time/temperature control for safety.
POPULATION	57,270	94,329	32,011

State context — Alabama cottage food law

Colbert 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 Colbert 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/colbert-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 Colbert 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/colbert-county-discuss

Free ad space available

Let us know if you're a non-profit or community organization. Farmers markets, kitchen rentals, and cottage food events near you welcome.

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