

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Lexington County

South Carolina · Lexington · FIPS 45063 · Population
295,934 · Crosodo Index #1323*

STATE BASELINE

S.C. Code §44-1-143; no registration required, no sales cap, home kitchen allowed, no inspection

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

Lexington County, South Carolina — permit, pickup, and label steps before the full county rules.

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes

STATE SALES CAP

—

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION

No

PETS

All animals including pets must be excluded from production area during food production

BEFORE YOU SELL FROM THIS ADDRESS

- ☐ **1. Menu** — Confirm each product under South Carolina 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
- ☐ South Carolina home-kitchen disclaimer (see live label one-pager)

CONTINUE ONLINE

[Open the live county page →](#)

[South Carolina label one-pager →](#)

[Local notes & questions →](#)

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

SOUTH CAROLINA: LEXINGTON COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #1323* · FIPS 45063 · Lexington

Lexington County

Population 295,934 · State baseline: S.C. Code §44-1-143; no registration required, no sales cap, home kitchen allowed, no inspection · **MEDIUM**

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (No domestic activities in kitchen during production; pets excluded; water/sewage must meet state standards; non-TCS foods only)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

All animals including pets must be excluded from production area during food production

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (No state food permit required. Local zoning/home occupation permit may be required at county or municipal level. Operator should contact Lexington County Planning Department)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

No (No state inspection required)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — No domestic activities in kitchen during production; pets excluded; water/sewage must meet state standards; non-TCS foods only
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	All animals including pets must be excluded from production area during food production
WATER SUPPLY	Water and sewage disposal systems must meet state standards
HANDWASHING	Standard food safety handwashing
FOOD STORAGE	Stored in sanitary conditions

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	No — No state inspection required
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — No state food permit required. Local zoning/home occupation permit may be required at county or municipal level. Operator should contact Lexington County Planning Department
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct to consumer including online and mail within SC; also to retail stores for resale
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified

Relevant county code

Not identified

RESEARCH NOTES

Same SC state baseline. Lexington County is suburban Columbia, SC. No county-specific overlay found.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.lex-co.com>

<https://agriculture.sc.gov/programs-services/cottage-food-operations/>

https://agriculture.sc.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/SCHome-basedFoodProductionLawBook2025_digital.pdf

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

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Lexington County	Richland County	Aiken County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	All animals including pets must be excluded from production area during food production	No specific state restriction beyond standard food safety.	No explicit state restriction; good manufacturing practices apply.
INSPECTION REQUIRED	No	No	No
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Direct to consumer including online and mail within SC; also to retail stores for resale	Direct-to-consumer and indirect sales (retail stores, grocery stores) permitted since 2022. Online/mail order allowed. Products cannot be r...	Direct and indirect sales allowed (retail stores, grocery stores since 2022 amendment), online, mail order with delivery.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies	Conditional	Conditional
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	No domestic activities in kitchen during production; pets excluded; water/ sewage must meet state standards; non-TCS foods only	South Carolina cottage food law (S.C. Code §44-1-145) allows non-PHF foods produced in primary domestic residence without registration, per...	Must be primary domestic residence kitchen. Non-potentially hazardous foods only. Operations with net earnings below \$1,500 exempt entirely...
FOOD STORAGE	Stored in sanitary conditions	Non-PHF shelf-stable products only.	Shelf-stable storage.
POPULATION	295,934	416,161	169,865

State context — South Carolina cottage food law

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

STATUTE	ANNUAL SALES CAP
S.C. Code §44-1-145	—
REGISTRATION REQUIRED	FOOD HANDLER CERT
No	No
KITCHEN INSPECTION	DIRECT SALES ONLY
No	No
INDIRECT SALES	
Yes — Since the 2022 amendment, home-based food operations may sell to retail stores and grocery stores in addition to direct-to-consumer sales including online and mail order. Retail stores that sell home-based food products must post clearly visible signage indicating the products are not subject to commercial food regulations.	

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

STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

State statute: <https://www.scstatehouse.gov/code/t44c001.php>

State dept cottage food page: <https://agriculture.sc.gov/programs-services/cottage-food-operations/>

Forrager.com: <https://forrager.com/law/south-carolina/>

Questions about Lexington 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/south-carolina/lexington-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 Lexington County, South Carolina. 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/south-carolina/lexington-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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