

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Lincoln County

Colorado · Hugo · FIPS 08073 · Population 5,598 · Crosodo Index #3089*

STATE BASELINE

C.R.S. §25-4-1614; CO tier: Great; cdphe.colorado.gov/cottage-foods

STATE TIER

Great

ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)

Tiered (see notes)

CONFIDENCE

MEDIUM

LAST VERIFIED

2026-05-06

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.

COLORADO: LINCOLN COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #3089* · FIPS 08073 · Hugo

Lincoln County

Population 5,598 · State baseline: C.R.S. §25-4-1614; CO tier: Great; cdphe.colorado.gov/cottage-foods · **MEDIUM**

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

True

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

False

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific county rule; state guidance recommends pets excluded from food prep area during production

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Possibly (Colorado cottage food law does not require a local permit. Lincoln County is a rural eastern plains county. Producers should verify with Lincoln County whether any home occupation permit is required.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

True

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

False (Complaint-based only per state law (C.R.S. §25-4-1614))

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED

True

SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN

False

PET RESTRICTIONS

No specific county rule; state guidance recommends pets excluded from food prep area during production

WATER SUPPLY

Potable water required; private well users should verify water quality

HANDWASHING

Required per CO cottage food food safety training requirements

FOOD STORAGE

Standard food safety storage per C.R.S. §25-4-1614; all products must be non-potentially hazardous (non-refrigerated)

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED

False — Complaint-based only per state law (C.R.S. §25-4-1614)

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT

Possibly — Colorado cottage food law does not require a local permit. Lincoln County is a rural eastern plains county. Producers should verify with Lincoln County whether any home occupation permit is required.

LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE

Unlikely; rural county with minimal business licensing; confirm with Lincoln County or Town of Hugo

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP

True

ON-SITE SIGNAGE

Not regulated at state level; local home occupation rules may restrict signage

DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES

Direct-to-consumer sales only; product must be sold in Colorado; cannot sell to restaurants or grocery stores

MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME

Sole proprietor or LLC of 2 or fewer owners; no additional employees per state law

Relevant county code

C.R.S. §25-4-1614 (Colorado Cottage Foods Act)

RESEARCH NOTES

No Lincoln County-specific cottage food ordinance found beyond state baseline. Rural eastern Colorado plains county. Colorado cottage food law does not preempt local zoning. \$10,000 annual cap per product type.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.lincolncountyco.us/public-health>

<https://www.lincolncountyco.us/planning>

<https://www.lincolncountyco.us>

<https://cdphe.colorado.gov/dehs/cottage-foods>

<https://assets.bouldercounty.gov/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/cottage-foods-checklist.pdf>

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

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Lincoln County	Cheyenne County	Crowley County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	True	True	True
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	False	False	False
PETS ALLOWED	No specific county rule; state guidance recommends pets excluded from food prep area during production	No specific county rule; state guidance recommends pets excluded from food prep area during production	No specific county rule; state guidance recommends pets excluded from food prep area during production
INSPECTION REQUIRED	False	False	False
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	True	True	True
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Not regulated at state level; local home occupation rules may restrict signage	Not regulated at state level; local home occupation rules may restrict signage	Not regulated at state level; local home occupation rules may restrict signage
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Direct-to-consumer sales only; product must be sold in Colorado; cannot sell to restaurants or grocery stores	Direct-to-consumer sales only; product must be sold in Colorado; cannot sell to restaurants or grocery stores	Direct-to-consumer sales only; product must be sold in Colorado; cannot sell to restaurants or grocery stores
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Possibly	Possibly	Possibly
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Unlikely; rural county with minimal business licensing; confirm with Lincoln County or Town of Hugo	Unlikely; very rural county; confirm with Cheyenne County or Town of Cheyenne Wells	Unlikely; very rural county with minimal business licensing infrastructure; confirm with Crowley County or Town of Ordway
RESTRICTIONS	—	—	—
FOOD STORAGE	Standard food safety storage per C.R.S. §25-4-1614; all products must be non-potentially hazardous (non-refrigerated)	Standard food safety storage per C.R.S. §25-4-1614; all products must be non-potentially hazardous (non-refrigerated)	Standard food safety storage per C.R.S. §25-4-1614; all products must be non-potentially hazardous (non-refrigerated)
POPULATION	5,583	1,726	5,782

State context — Colorado cottage food law

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

STATUTE

C.R.S. §25-4-1614

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Yes

KITCHEN INSPECTION

Upon-complaint

INDIRECT SALES

No — Products cannot be resold; producers must sell directly to consumers but may designate a representative to sell on their behalf. Sales through restaurants or retail stores are not permitted, though the health department may allow direct sales at those locations on a case-by-case basis.

ANNUAL SALES CAP

Tiered (see notes)

FOOD HANDLER CERT

Yes (specific course)

DIRECT SALES ONLY

Yes

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

STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

State statute: https://leg.colorado.gov/sites/default/files/2022a_158_signed.pdf

State dept cottage food page: <https://cdphe.colorado.gov/cottage-foods>

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

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

<https://crosodo.com/nb/colorado/lincoln-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 Lincoln County, Colorado. 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 free on the Crosodo Forum.

crosodo.com/nb/colorado/lincoln-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.

Ads are paid placements. Crosodo does not endorse listed vendors. Verify all information independently. · To advertise: crosodo.com/advertise