

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Lowndes County

Mississippi · Columbus · FIPS 28087 · Population 58,547 ·
Crosodo Index #2758*

STATE BASELINE

Miss. Code Ann. §75-29-951

STATE TIER

Good

ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)

35000

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.

MISSISSIPPI: LOWNDES COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2758* · FIPS 28087 · Columbus

Lowndes County

Population 58,547 · State baseline: Miss. Code Ann. §75-29-951 · **MEDIUM**

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Mississippi cottage food law (Miss. Code Ann. §75-29-951) allows nonpotentially hazardous foods. \$35,000 annual sales cap. No registration, no inspection required. Direct sales only — no internet, mail order, wholesale, or retail store sales. In-state only.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific pet restriction in state cottage food law.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (Lowndes County and City of Columbus may have home occupation zoning requirements. Operators should check with Lowndes County or Columbus city planning.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Conditional

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (MSDH may inspect upon complaint; no routine inspection.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Mississippi cottage food law (Miss. Code Ann. §75-29-951) allows nonpotentially hazardous foods. \$35,000 annual sales cap. No registration, no inspection required. Direct sales only — no internet, mail order, wholesale, or retail store sales. In-state only.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific pet restriction in state cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific state cottage food water testing requirement.
HANDWASHING	No specific state cottage food handwashing mandate.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-potentially hazardous foods only; proper storage required.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — MSDH may inspect upon complaint; no routine inspection.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — Lowndes County and City of Columbus may have home occupation zoning requirements. Operators should check with Lowndes County or Columbus city planning.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Conditional
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct sales in person only at farmers markets, events, home pickup. NO internet sales, NO mail order, NO wholesale, NO retail store sales.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified in state statute.

Relevant county code

Lowndes County zoning code (home occupation provisions); no specific cottage food county code identified.

RESEARCH NOTES

Input data for this county had CSV parsing issues (county_govt_url field appears to contain state dept name, county_health_url appears to contain tier). State baseline (Miss. Code Ann. §75-29-951) applies. Key MS restrictions: \$35,000 annual cap, NO internet/mail order sales, direct sales only. The MSDH cottage food URL in the input (page/30,0,76.html) appears incorrect; correct URL is msdh.ms.gov/msdhsite/_static/30,0,77,620.html. Nut butters and juices have been flagged as prohibited by the health department despite being nominally non-PHF.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

https://msdh.ms.gov/msdhsite/_static/30,0,77,620.html

<https://law.justia.com/codes/mississippi/title-75/chapter-29/article-21/section-75-29-951/>

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

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Lowndes County	Oktibbeha County	Clay County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	No specific pet restriction in state cottage food law.	Not specified in state cottage food law.	No specific pet restriction in state cottage food law.
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint	Upon-complaint	Upon-complaint
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Conditional	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Direct sales in person only at farmers markets, events, home pickup. NO internet sales, NO mail order, NO wholesale, NO retail store sales.	In-person direct-to-consumer sales only. No internet sales, mail order, wholesale, or retail establishment sales permitted under state law.	Direct sales only. In-person sales from home, farmers markets, roadside stands, fairs, and events are permitted. No internet/mail-order sal...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies	Conditional	Varies
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Mississippi cottage food law (Miss. Code Ann. §75-29-951) allows nonpotentially hazardous foods. \$35,000 annual sales cap. No registration,...	Must produce in home kitchen. Non-potentially hazardous foods only. Annual gross sales cap \$35,000. Direct-to-consumer sales only (no inter...	Mississippi Cottage Food Law (Miss. Code Ann. §75-29-951) allows sale of non-potentially hazardous foods prepared in a private home kitchen...
FOOD STORAGE	Non-potentially hazardous foods only; proper storage required.	Products must be non-potentially hazardous and not require refrigeration.	Non-potentially hazardous, shelf-stable foods only. Must be stored in private home (kitchen or attached rooms used exclusively for storage)...
POPULATION	58,547	51,388	18,598

State context — Mississippi cottage food law

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

STATUTE Miss. Code Ann. §75-29-951	ANNUAL SALES CAP 35000
REGISTRATION REQUIRED No	FOOD HANDLER CERT No
KITCHEN INSPECTION Upon-complaint	DIRECT SALES ONLY Yes
INDIRECT SALES No — Mississippi prohibits Internet sales, mail order, wholesale, and retail establishment sales. Cottage food products may only be sold through in-person direct-to-consumer channels including events, farmers markets, home sales, and roadside stands. Advertising on the Internet including social media is permitted even though sales through those channels are not.	

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

STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

State statute: <https://law.justia.com/codes/mississippi/title-75/chapter-29/article-21/section-75-29-951/>

State dept cottage food page: <https://msdh.ms.gov/page/30,0,76.html>

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

Questions?

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

<https://crosodo.com/nb/mississippi/lowndes-county-discuss>
