

Hello Honorable Board of Supervisors,

It's time to align with the State with our county definition of Microbusiness. The state does not require that a home or residence be on the property for a microbusiness license, nor does it limit the square footage or employees to those within the Home Occ or Cottage Industry limits. It might seem like a small point to you, of little note, but enabling small farms to have a bit more room and be able to hire more than one employee will allow farms to capture more funds by directly selling and delivering to their own clients, fully tracked and safely. Give small farmers a little more room, please!

Further, as Microbusinesses are limited to providing only their own cultivated crops, requiring a Major Use Permit for microbusiness-distribution in Ag, RL and FL is unwarranted. Farmers already store, label, and sell to others (ie: distros and retailers through distros) under regular cultivation regulations, why does it now require a Use Permit, especially a Major Use Permit to perform the same functions? Distribution is mainly storage, and delivery to retailers. It makes no sense to require a MUP. All Distribution for Microbusinesses should be a simple Zoning clearance or AP at most.

Please go with a more reasonable AP or ZC for distribution aspects and adopt State guidelines and definitions to give a boost to Mendocino farmers at no expense to the county's pocketbook.

Thank you for your attention,

Rachael Wordhouse-Dykema  
Cultivator and hopeful Microbusiness applicant