

# Turkey's Geographical Indications Dairy Products

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## Abstract

Geographical indications (GIs) are place designations that are used to identify items that originate in those locations and to safeguard the reputation and caliber of a distinctive product with local origins. The phrase is most frequently used in reference to alcoholic beverages, food, and agriculture. Turkey is one of the countries in the world with a very high GI potential. According to the data of the Turkish Patent and Trademark Office (TÜRKPATENT), there are about 2500 products that can receive CI registration. European Union Registration Status of geographically indication products in Turkish agricultural products are 8 products and has made an application to the EU Commission totally for 31 products. Dairy products [(55 pieces: 34 cheese, 2 butter, 4 cream, 9 yoghurt, 2 ice cream, 2 ayran, and 2 others (Bolu Keçi, Gerede Keçi)] constitute 5.3% of the share in food products. While it constitutes 2.7% of the total registered products, it has a rate of 61.8% among dairy products. The number of dairy products for which GI applications have been made is 19. This value constitutes 4.58% of the total of 720 products at the application stage. A total of 34 cheeses, of which 14 (3 from abroad) originate here and 20 have a geographical indication, have been registered. In this review, information will be given about the geographical indication registered dairy products in Turkey to prefer Hardaliye. Although there were many research about the functional properties, health benefits, consumers

**Keywords:** Geographical indications, Protected Geographical Indication, Protected Designation of Origin, Traditional Specialty Guaranteed, Dairy products.



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## 1 - Introduction

Geographical indications can be used to locate products whose reputation, quality, or other attributes are linked to their country of origin. Numerous nations across the world have implemented various legislative frameworks pertaining to geographical indications(WIPO, 2022).In Europe, the origin-based protection of food products has a long history. Since the 1920s, Parmigiano-Reggiano cheese made in the Po River Valley in Italy and Roquefort cheese produced in France have been protected (1). France and Italy have created a sophisticated legal protection system for geographical indications during the past century, including AOP (Appellation d'Origine Contrôlée) in France and DOP (Denominazione di Origine Controllata) in Italy. The majority of the EU's system is built on these systems (8).

Countries at the international level of GI have entered into a variety of agreements over many years to secure the protection of origin in their internal affairs and international trade relations. The process that began with the Paris accord of 1883 proceeded with the Madrid and Lisbon agreements of 1891 and 1999, respectively. The Trade-Related Intellectual Property Rights Agreement of 1994 is the most general and comprehensive of these accords (TRIPS) (3). In 1995, Turkey became one of the nations that joined the convention (Yıldız, 2008). In Turkey, the Turkish Patent and Trademark Office receives requests for geographical registration and administers the processes for registering items (2).

Protected Geographical Indication (PGI), Protected Designation of Origin (PDO), and Traditional Specialty Guaranteed are the three mechanisms that have been identified by Regulation 1151/2012 as being available to protect the quality and origin of food products within the European Union (TSG). Both the PGI and PDO programs are concerned directly with the country of origin of food goods (6).

The European Commission grants a Protected Designation of Origin (PDO) to regional products originating in a given region, provided that the quality or other

characteristics of the product are essentially attributable to the particular geographical environment of the place of origin. The geographical environment encompasses natural and human factors, such as climate, soil conditions, topography, local know-how, etc. Products bearing this label must be produced, processed and prepared in a certain geographical area using a recognised and controlled method, for example cheeses made in a certain area from the milk of a local animal breed reared in that geographical area( Examples: Gorgonzola (cheese). Protected geographical indication (PGI), The product may be manufactured in any other location provided that at least one of the product characteristics to which a geographical indication is linked to the defined boundary should be originated from the said region. Traditional Speciality Guaranteed (TSG), The products that cannot be registered as designation of origin or geographical indication can be registered as traditional speciality guaranteed products speciality guaranteed if it can be proven that the product is on the traditional market for at least 30 years. In order to register these products as traditional speciality guaranteed products, these products should have been made by either traditional production, processing, traditional composition or traditional materials (TÜRKPATENT, 2022).

In addition to global population expansion, the reshaping of human needs, habits, and preferences, as well as socioeconomic developments, have altered the consumption structure. New technologies, which are utilized extensively in the production of agriculture, food, and other basic necessities, have boosted the demand for and significance of traditional and regional goods. (5).

The main purpose of the protection of geographical indications and traditional product names is to protect the quality process of the products and to ensure the sustainability of the production process of the product, as well as to keep the cultural values alive. At the same time, it contributes to regional economic development and prevents migration. It also enables countries to exist in

the international market with their unique products.

Included in the group of GI are the products obtained when at least one of the steps such as growing, production, and processing of the products belonging to that region, which is located in a region with defined borders, occurs inside the borders of that region (4). The items that fall under the designation "origin group" are those that have undergone all stages of production, cultivation, and processing within a defined geographical location (Turkish Patent and Trademark Office, 2022). In addition, the idea of "Speciality Guaranteed Products" is prohibited from both the designation of origin and protected GI. This idea does not encompass geographical limits. Institution for Turkish Patents and Trademarks It is defined as "names demonstrated to have been customarily used for at least 30 years to describe products referenced in the relevant field." This idea pertains to the use of traditional raw materials and production and processing methods (Turkish Patent and Trademark Office, 2022).

Turkey is one of the countries in the world with a very high GI potential. According to the data of the Turkish Patent and Trademark Office (TÜRKPATENT), there are about 2500 products that can receive CI registration (Cakmakci and Salik 2021). As of November 2022, 1250 products have been taken under protection with a GI registration certificate, and 705 products for which an application has been made are in the evaluation phase.

European Union Registration Status of geographically indication products in Turkish agricultural products are 8 products (Table 1) and has made an application to the EU Commission totally for 31 products.

## 2. Geographical Indications Protections Of Dairy Products In Turkey

When the Turkish Statistical Institute (TUIK) data is analyzed, 756,646 tons of cheese were produced in Turkey in 2020. While 729,539 tons (96.4%) of this is cow cheese, 27,108 tons (3.6%) is made up of

other cheeses (made from sheep, goat, buffalo, and/or mixed milk). Assuming an average of 13% cheese yield (including soft and hard cheeses), it can be calculated that approximately 24% of the total amount of milk (22,960,379 tons) produced in our country is processed into cheese. According to 2020 data, approximately 16.6% of the cheeses produced are soft type (125.556 tons), 30.1% are medium soft type (228.026 tons), 21% are hard type (158.819 tons), 30.7% are medium hard type (232.419 tons), 1.3% are extra-hard type (9.573 tons), and 0.3% are cheese made from curd (1,252 tons) (9). Turkey's total cheese production, the majority of which (96%) is made from cow's milk, decreased by 6.5% in 2019 compared to the previous year, to 707 thousand tons, the total supply increased by 6.6% to 714 thousand tons, and cheese exports reached 50 thousand tons, as calculated as follows: Turkey ranks 4th in the world in cheese production (TEPGE, 2020).

According to TÜRKPATENT's data, in the distribution of registered GIs by product groups, food products (chocolate, confectionery, and derivatives; processed and unprocessed meat products; meals and soups; oils; alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages; dairy products, processed and unprocessed fruits and vegetables; honey; bakery and pastry products; and condiments for food) accounted for 83.5% of the total with 1044 registrations, while handicrafts and others accounted for 16.5% with 206 registrations. Dairy products [(55 pieces: 34 cheese, 2 butter, 4 cream, 9 yoghurt, 2 ice cream, 2 ayran, and 2 others (Bolu Keçi, Gerede Keçi)] constitute 5.3% of the share in food products. While it constitutes 2.7% of the total registered products, it has a rate of 61.8% among dairy products. The number of dairy products for which GI applications have been made is 19. This value constitutes 4.58% of the total of 720 products at the application stage (TÜRKPATENT, 2022).

Geographical indication registration activities in Turkey are generally carried out by local governments, commodity exchanges, chambers of commerce, chambers of industry and producer organizations.

A total of 34 cheeses, of which 14 (3 from abroad) originate here and 20 have a geographical indication, have been registered by TÜRKPATENT throughout our country. Dairy products with CI in Turkey: Some of the information specified in the registration documents is given in Table 2. The application process for 42 products continues. (Table.3).

In countries with a large number of dairy products entitled to protection by the EU, especially in France, the relationship between producers and manufacturers has a great impact on the success of geographically indicated dairy products. Thanks to an ideal production chain in these countries, it is possible to supply quality raw milk. This is accomplished through effective relationship management between manufacturers. In addition, the organization of the producers creates a sustainable supply chain, and it is seen that the producer associations are entitled to geographical indication protection in the process of taking them under protection. In addition, with an effective monitoring system, the reliability of geographically indicated products for consumers increases (Tekelioğlu, 2022). Since June 21, 1996, when the first registrations were made by the EU, it has been seen that the most protected dairy products belong to France, so much so that 23.36% (57 units) of the total dairy products under protection are French products. 54 of these dairy products are cheese. Italy comes in second with 54 dairy product protection rights. Following Italy are, in order, Spain (28), Greece (21), England (17), Portugal (15), and Germany (10). Some cheese varieties that are protected by the EU and are an important source of income for the area where they are produced are Comté cheese (France), Feta cheese (Greece), Parmigiano Reggiano cheese (Italy), and Queijo Serpa cheese (Portugal). But Erzincan Tulum cheese, which was the first cheese variety to be registered by the Turkish Patent Institute on September 12, 2000, and Ezine cheese, which is associated with Turkey and was

registered on April 10, 2007, have not yet been registered with the EU (7).

## Conclusion

Turkey has a significant GIs that can be analyzed in the context of gastronomic products. Turkey's rich cultural legacy, suitable climate zone, and favorable geographical location have enabled it to have a vast potential for agricultural products. This abundant GIs of food and agricultural products has a significant impact on culinary tourism. By supporting local agricultural activities, GI provides value to local products and aids to the promotion of regions receiving GIs. Therefore, it safeguards local values and gastronomic traditions. Additionally, GIs products are an important factor for safety, quality, and origin that enables manufacturers to promote their products with ease and consumers to purchase with confidence.

Despite the fact that there are more than 150 certified cheese varieties in Turkey, there are other cheese variants with unique qualities that are in danger of extinction. While the majority of these cheeses are produced and consumed in sufficient amounts to meet the need in the region where they are produced, some of them are well-known throughout the country and bring extra value as commercial products. It is necessary to classify the cheeses of our country according to their various characteristics, to develop and standardize their production technologies, to register them, to obtain the GI registration of more cheeses, to create a regularly updated database of their properties and compositions, and to introduce them to the world through gastronomic tourism by establishing cheese routes. The internationally valid geographical indications provide a great advantage for the product from which the mark is obtained. It causes both the worldwide recognition of the product and the gaining of a different prestige for the country. So, when the subject is looked at in terms of Turkey, it becomes clear how important it is to increase the number of products with international geographical indications.

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Table 1. European Union Registration Status of geographically indication products in Turkish agricultural products.

| Products Groups<br>(name)                   | Product category   | Date of Application | Date of Registration |
|---|--|---------------------|----------------------|
| Antep Baklavası / Gaziantep Baklavası (PGI) | Class 2.3. Bread, pastry, cakes, confectionery, biscuits and other baker's wares | 10/07/2009          | 21.12.2013           |
| Aydın İnciri (PDO)                          | Class 1.6. Fruit, vegetables and cereals fresh or processed                      | 11.06.2013          | 17.02.2016           |
| Malatya Kayısı (PDO)                        | Class 1.6. Fruit, vegetables and cereals fresh or processed                      | 13.05.2014          | 07.07.2017           |
| Aydın Kestanesi (PDO)                       | Class 1.6. Fruit, vegetables and cereals fresh or processed                      | 08.09.2015          | 24.09.2020           |
| Milas Zeytinyağı (PDO)                      | Class 1.5. Oils and fats (butter, margarine, oil, etc.)                          | 13.11.2017          | 23.12.2020           |
| Taşköprü Sarımsağı (PDO)                    | Class 1.6. Fruit, vegetables and cereals fresh or processed                      | 09.01.2017          | 16.04.2021           |
| Bayramiç beyaz (PDO)                        | Class 1.6. Fruit, vegetables and cereals fresh or processed                      | 01.02.2018          | 16.04.2021           |
| Giresun Tombul Fındığı (PDO)                | Class 1.6. Fruit, vegetables and cereals fresh or processed                      | 26.04.2018          | 20.06.2022           |

Tablo 2. Dairy products with CI in Turkey

| CHEESES                           |                   |         |  |   |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|---------|--|---|
| Cheeses Name                      | Registration Date | CI Type | Geographical Boundary  | Applicant   |
| Erzincan Tulum Cheese             | 12.09.2000        | PDO     | Erzincan   | Erzincan Chamber of Commerce and Industry   |
| Ezine Cheese                      | 10.04.2007        | PDO     | Ezine, Bayramiç and Ayvacık Districts and Şerbetli, Etili, Ahlatburun, Küçükli, Alibeyköy, Söğütalan, Karacören, Kurşunlu and Kirazlı Villages | Association for the Protection, Development and Promotion of Ezine Cheese and Dairy Farmers |
| Edirne Beyaz Cheese               | 23.10.2007        | PGI     | Türkiye  | Edirne Chamber of Commerce and Industry   |
| Erzurum Civil Cheese              | 01.03.2001        | PGI     | Erzurum  | Erzurum Commodity Exchange  |
| Erzurum Küflü Civil Cheese        | 01.03.2001        | PGI     | Erzurum  | Erzurum Commodity Exchange  |
| Diyarbakır Örgü Cheese            | 15.02.2001        | PGI     | Diyarbakır   | Diyarbakır Governor's Office  |
| Kars Kaşarı                       | 14.02.2001        | PDO     | Kars Ve Ardahan  | Kafkas University Rectorate   |
| Malkara Eski Kaşar Cheese         | 06.12.2001        | PDO     | Tekirdağ Province Malkara District   | Malkara Chamber of Commerce and Industry  |
| Yozgat Çanak Cheese               | 18.12.2001        | PGI     | Yozgat   | Yozgat Belediye Municipality  |
| Karaman Divle Obruğu Tulum Cheese | 08.12.2001        | PDO     | Karaman Province Ayrancı District  | Karaman Chamber of Commerce and Industry  |
| Van Otu Cheese                    | 31.12.2001        | PDO     | Van - Hakkari  | Van Chamber of Commerce and Industry  |
| Antep Sıkma Cheese                | 04.06.2001        | PDO     | Gaziantep  | Gaziantep Commodity Exchange  |
| Antalya Sürkü (Çökelegi)          | 26.02.2001        | PGI     | Hatay  | Antalya Chamber of Commerce and Industry  |
| Antalya Küflü Sürkü               | 12.06.2001        | PGI     | Hatay  | Antalya Chamber of Commerce and Industry  |
| Manyas Kelle Cheese               | 16.12.2001        | PGI     | Balıkesir Province Manyas, Bandırma and Gonen Districts  | Manyas District Governorate   |
| Bolu Keşi                         | 22.09.2002        | PGI     | Bolu Province Göynük, Mengen and Mudurnu Districts, Sakarya Province Taraklı District and Bilecik Province Gölbaşı District                    | Bolu Chamber of Commerce and Industry   |
| Kırklareli Beyaz Cheese           | 23.12.2002        | PDO     | Kırklareli   | Kırklareli Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Commodity Exchange                          |
| Çankırı Küpecik Cheese            | 01.10.2002        | PGI     | Çankırı  | Çankırı Municipality  |
| Antalya Carra Cheese              | 18.02.2002        | PDO     | Hatay Province Antalya, Arsuz, Belen, Yayladağ, Altınözü and Reyhanlı Districts  | Antalya Chamber of Commerce and Industry  |
| Gümüşhane Delme Cheese            | 17.03.2002        | PGI     | Gümüşhane  | Gümüşhane Chamber of Commerce and Industry  |
| Pınarbaşı Uzunyayla Çerkes Cheese | 14.04.2002        | PDO     | Uzunyayla Plateau  | Kayseri Pınarbaşı Municipality  |
| Sakarya Abhaz (Abaza) Cheese      | 03.05.2002        | PGI     | Sakarya  | Sakarya Chamber of Commerce and Industry  |
| Vakıfkebir Külek Cheese           | 25.05.2002        | PGI     | Trabzon  | Vakıfkebir Municipality   |
| Maras Parmak/Sıkma Cheese         | 17.04.2002        | PGI     | Kahramanmaraş  | Kahramanmaraş Municipality  |
| Urfa Cheese                       | 27.07.2002        | PGI     | Şanlıurfa  | Şanlıurfa Commodity Exchange  |
| Kargı Tulum Cheese                | 26.10.2002        | PDO     | Corum Province Kargı District  | Kargı Municipality  |
| Antalya Künefeliç Cheese          | 22.12.2002        | PGI     | Hatay  | Antalya Chamber of Commerce and Industry  |
| İvrindi Kelle Cheese              | 09.02.2002        | PGI     | Balıkesir Province İvrindi District  | İvrindi Municipality  |
| İzmir Tulum Cheese                | 24.01.2002        | PGI     | Aydın, Balıkesir, İzmir and Manisa   | İzmir Commodity Exchange  |
| Yüksekova Çirek Cheese            | 18.04.2002        | PGI     | Hakkâri Province Yüksekova District  | Yüksekova Chamber of Commerce and Industry  |
| Çayeli Koloti Cheese              | 24.08.2002        | PDO     | Rize   | Çayeli District Directorate of Agriculture and Forestry                                     |
| Hellim Cheese                     | 04.11.2002        | PDO     | Cyprus Island  | Cyprus Turkish Chamber of Industry  |
| Parmesan Cheese                   | 20.11.2002        | PDO     | Italy's Provinces of Parma, Reggio Emilia, Modena and Mantua, and the banks of the Po and Reno Rivers  | Consorzio Del Formaggio Parmigiano-Reggiano   |
| Grana Padano Cheese               | 28.03.2002        | PDO     | Some Areas on the Banks of the Po and Reno Rivers in Italy   | Consorzio Per La Tutela Del Formaggio Grana Padano  |
| ICE CREAMS                        |                   |         |  |   |
| Görele Ice cream                  | 21.06.2019        | PGI     | Giresun province, Görele district  | Görele Municipality   |
| Maras Ice cream                   | 18.04.2018        | PGI     | Kahramanmaraş  | Kahramanmaraş Chamber of Commerce and Industry  |
| BUTTER                            |                   |         |  |   |
| Erzurum butter                    | 23.10.2022        | PGI     | Erzurum  | Erzurum Commodity Exchange  |
| Tonya butter                      | 18.08.2018        | PDO     | Trabzon province Tonya district  | Tonya Municipality  |

Kaynak: [www.ci.gov.tr](http://www.ci.gov.tr)

Tablo 3. Dairy products under application in Turkey

| CHEESES                                      |         |                       |
|--|---------|-----------------------|
| Product name                                 | CI Type | Geographical Boundary |
| Abaza peyniri                                | PGI     | Sakarya               |
| Atlanti Dededağ Tulum                        | PGI     | Konya                 |
| Ayrancı berendi Kar Obruğu peyniri           | PDO     | Karaman               |
| Ayvalık kelle peyniri/Ayvalık Sepet peyniri  | PGI     | Balıkesir             |
| Ayvalık Kirli hanım peyniri                  | PGI     | Balıkesir             |
| Ağrı Tulum peyniri                           | PDO     | Ağrı                  |
| Bayramiç peyniri                             | PDO     | Çanakkale             |
| Bergama Tulum peyniri                        | PGI     | İzmir                 |
| Ermenek peyniri                              | PDO     | Karaman               |
| Eskipazar Sırdanlı peynir                    | PGI     | Karabük               |
| Gorgonzola                                   | PDO     | Yurt dışı             |
| Gömeç kirli hanım peyniri                    | PGI     | Balıkesir             |
| Hanak tel peyniri                            | PDO     | Ardahan               |
| Kars Gravyer peyniri                         | PGI     | Kars                  |
| Kazımkarabekir Bastırık peyniri              | PGI     | Karaman               |
| Kepsüt Bükdere Küflü katık peyniri           | PGI     | Balıkesir             |
| Kırklareli Ereğli kaşar peyniri              | PDO     | Kırklareli            |
| Mengen peyniri                               | PGI     | Bolu                  |
| Muş kasarı                                   | PGI     | Muş                   |
| Sındırıgeğridere Yünlü Tulum peyniri         | PGI     | Balıkesir             |
| Talas Otlu Çömlek peyniri                    | PGI     | Kayseri               |
| Çardak Deri peyniri                          | PGI     | Çardak                |
| İspir Krun peyniri                           | PDO     | Erzurum               |
| DAIRY PRODUCTS OTHER THAN CHEESES AND BUTTER |         |                       |
| Altınyayla Tomas Kaymağı                     | PGI     | Sivas                 |
| Ayrancı Yanısı Yoğurdu                       | PGI     | Karaman               |
| Balıkesir Manda Kaymağı                      | PGI     | Balıkesir             |
| Başyayla Karin Kaymağı                       | PGI     | Karaman               |
| Başyayla Kuru Keçi                           | PGI     | Karaman               |
| Beytüşsəbə Teremast Yoğurdu                  | PGI     | Şırnak                |
| Kandıra Manda Yoğurdu                        | PDO     | Kocaeli               |
| Karapınar Koyn Yoğurdu                       | PGI     | Konya                 |
| Malatya Deri Çökelek / Malatya Kuru Çökelek  | PGI     | Malatya               |
| Mancusun Manda Kaymağı                       | PDO     | Kayseri               |
| Sandıklı Kese Yoğurdu                        | PGI     | Afyonkarahisar        |
| Savaştepe Mihalıç Kelle Peyniri              | PGI     | Balıkesir             |
| Talas Zincidere Kuru Kaymağı                 | PGI     | Kayseri               |
| Yoğurt                                       | TSG     |                       |
| Özvatan Çönlek Peyniri                       | PGI     | Kayseri               |
| İstanbul Manda Yoğurdu                       | PDO     | İstanbul              |
| BUTTER                                       |         |                       |
| Ayrancı Koyun Tereyağı                       | PDO     | Karaman               |
| Balya Tereyağı                               | PGI     | Balıkesir             |
| ICE CREAM                                    |         |                       |
| Elazığ Vişne Dondurması                      | PGI     | Elazığ ili            |

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