

## **GEOGRAPHIC INDICATIONS IN TRADITIONAL LOCAL MILK PRODUCTS: AYDIN CASE IN TURKEY**

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The geographical indication (GI) has been stimulating the socioeconomic developments of a society over the last years. In Turkey, natural, agricultural, mining and industrial products protect under GI by registration to Turkish Patent Institute (TPE). Turkey has a rich and culturally diverse potential for milk products especially in terms of production of local cheese varieties and milky desserts. Until now there are 11 registered GI and also 17 under consideration geographic signs application to TPE related to milk and milky desserts. It could be stated that most of the registered dairy products geographical signs have been produced western part of the Turkey. However, although there is a high demand and many traditional dairy products production such as Aydın Torba Yoğurdu, Aydın Çökelek Peyniri (Aydın Strained Yoghurt, Aydın Çökelek Cheese, Toz Cheese, Çamur cheese, Jug cheese) in the west part of the Turkey, in Aydın, they have not been protected, yet. According to the database and the classification of geographical indications in the Turkey, this study focuses on the development of traditional dairy products and reveals an increase in registration of GI in dairy products which has been produced in Aydın region.

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