

Rùnaire a' Chaibineit airson Cùisean Dùthchail agus na h-Àrainneachd  
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*For HS,*

## PGI CERTIFICATION OF ORKNEY SCOTTISH ISLAND CHEDDAR

I write to share the good news with you that Orkney Scottish Island Cheddar has successfully obtained Protected Geographical Indication (PGI) status following registration in the official EU Journal.

As you will be aware, the EU Protected Food Name (PFN) scheme was established in 1993 and provides a system for the protection of food names on a geographical or traditional recipe basis under three schemes; Protected Designation of Origin (PDO), Protected Geographical Indication (PGI) and Traditional Speciality Guaranteed (TSG).

The registration protects the geographical indication of the product by specifying all stages of preparation and production of Orkney Scottish Island Cheddar must take place in the area including:

- sourcing of milk
- pasteurisation and standardising of milk
- preparation and stirring of ingredients
- addition of salt to curds
- maturation and grading of cheese.

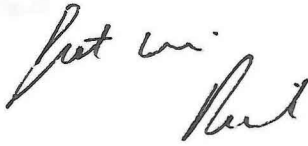
Registration provides legal protection against imitation by inferior products and producers who are not meeting the registered specification. There are also good economic reasons to register products under the scheme, European wide research has shown that GI products are sold (in average) 2.23 times as high as a comparable non-GI product.

/Scotland...



Scotland now has thirteen PFN registrations and we are actively working with the Scottish Rural College (SRUC) and a number of producers of iconic Scottish products to develop future PFN applications.

I hope you find this information of interest.



**RICHARD LOCHHEAD**