# **The Role of Women in the Production of Geographical Indication Registered Cemele Pepper (Cemele Biberi)**[[1]](#footnote-1)

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**Abstract**

While geographically indicated products continue to attract attention both in the national and international arena, it is seen that the market share has expanded in recent years. It can be said that a new segment with an important share in the market has emerged as consumers have more information on this subject and start to embrace the local values ​​they have in their producers more. However, with each new development, more issues to be discussed on the system arise, and the advantages and disadvantages of the system begin to be questioned. It is obvious that geographically indicated products, which have started to be on the agenda more than ever with product differentiation and quality-based local product labels, need to be examined sociologically as well as economic value. In particular, the gender dimension emerges as one of the issues that should be examined in this regard. In this study, the role of women in the production process of Cemele Pepper, which is produced in Çayağzı village of Kırşehir province in Turkiye and has a geographical indication registration (PDO), has been tried to be revealed. For this purpose, face-to-face questionnaires were filled with 54 household heads from 350 households producing Cemele Pepper in Çayağzı Village. As a result of the survey, it was determined that 55.56% of the producers produced Cemele Pepper in small garden type production areas and that female producers took more responsibility than males at every stage of production. It has been concluded that female producers, who produce an important economic value, should both take part in the geographical indication system and participate more in the decisions to be taken. There are women in the partnership structure of Cemele Pepper, whose application was made on behalf of Çayağzı Village “Limited Liability Cemele Pepper Production and Marketing Cooperative”, but this number needs to be increased. Therefore, it can be said that it is important to adopt a gender-oriented development approach in studies on Cemele Pepper.

**Keywords:** Geographical Indication, Protected Designation of Origin, Gender, Rural Development, Turkiye

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