

**SUMMARY TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS
FOR REGISTRATION OF GEOGRAPHICAL INDICATIONS**

NAME OF THE GEOGRAPHICAL INDICATION:

Μαστίχα Χίου (Masticha Chiou)

CATEGORY OF THE PRODUCT FOR WHICH THE NAME IS PROTECTED:

Class 2.5: Natural gums and resins

APPLICANT:

Chios Gum Mastic Growers Association

Address: 1, Konstantinou Monomaxou St, Chios, 821 00, Greece

PROTECTION IN EU MEMBER STATE OF ORIGIN

It has been protected in the Member State of origin since **14.01.1994**

This geographical indication has been registered and protected in the European Union since **24.01.1997**(EL/PDO/0017/1558)

Proof of protection is provided by its inclusion in “the Register of protected designations of origin and protected geographical indications' established by Regulation (EE) No 1151/2012 on quality schemes for agricultural products and foodstuffs. The European Commission records the legal instrument for registering the individual name in 'the Register' and publishes a reference to this instrument in the publicly accessible database DOOR.

DESCRIPTION OF THE AGRICULTURAL PRODUCT OR FOODSTUFF

Masticha Chiou is a natural gum that comes from the mastic tree (*Pistacia Lentiscus var Chia*), which belong to the family of *Anarcadiaceae*. It is produced in the traditional manner only in the island of Chios and is known for a great many years (more than 3000). It has medicinal, pharmaceutical and industrial applications.

Technical description: Transparent/opaque crystalline solid, yellowish or originally slightly orange teardrop-shaped grains.

Density: 1.06. Melting point: 60-110. Acidity: 50-70.

Taste: some slight taste to begin with but fades later

Smell: characteristic of mastic

Chemical analysis: essential oil (mastic oil) 1-3%, α - and β -mastichinic acid 4%, masticholic acid 0.5%, α -mastichonic acid 20%, β - mastichonic acid 18%, α -mastic resin 30%, β - mastic resin 20% .

All steps of production must take place in the delimited geographical zone.

CONCISE DEFINITION OF THE GEOGRAPHICAL AREA

Masticha Chiou is produced in the southern part of the island of Chios, in the 24 villages and communities known as "Mastihohoria" (literally "the mastic villages"), viz. Ag. Georgios, Amolia, Vavili, Vessa, Vouno, Elata, Exo Didima, Tholopotami, Thimiana, Kalamoti, Kallimasia, Kataraktis, Kini, Livi, Mesa Didima, Mesta, Mirmiggi, Nenita, Neochori, Olimpi, Pagida, Patrika, Pirgi and Flatsia, Greece.

LINK WITH THE GEOGRAPHICAL AREA

Masticha Chiou is a traditional and globally unique product. It is a natural gum that produces the native mastic tree *Pistacia Lentiscus var Chia* which is cultivated and thrives only in the southern part of the island of Chios. It comprises a significant source of agriculture income and foreign exchange.

The history of Masticha Chiou is very old. Its therapeutic properties for human and animals were known since the ancient eras to the Greek physicians and writers such as Hippocrates, Dioskourides, Plinius etc. Historian Herodotus refers to masticha Chiou since the 5th century BC. Leaves fossils aged of 6million years have been found in island of Chios by geologists. Masticha Chiou becomes widely famous since the 1st century AC when travellers visit the island of Chios.

SPECIFIC RULES CONCERNING LABELLING (IF ANY)

Masticha Chiou has the code number XI – the label bears the serial number and the last two digits of the year of manufacture.

CONTROL AUTHORITY/CONTROL BODY

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