

### On the origin of the place name *Szőlős*

The origin of the Old Hungarian settlement name *Szőlős* has long been explained in two ways. One theory suggests that it derives from the adjectival form of the word for grape, originally used as a microname to designate an area for grape cultivation together with the settlement name later formed metonymically from the noun. The other theory posits that *Szőlős* comes from the occupational name for a vineyard worker (Latin: *vinitor*), together with the term for an individual, eventually becoming the collective name for the entire village. These settlements are associated with the medieval *ministeriales conditionarii*, a type of village where all or some of the inhabitants were required to perform specific services. However, during this period, occupational names frequently evolved into personal names, meaning that not all settlement names directly reflected the occupations or services of their inhabitants. It is therefore possible that the occupational term first became a personal name, which then served as the basis for the settlement name. This metonymic naming process could also apply to the occupational term for a vineyard worker.

In the paper, I examine the probability of these proposed etymologies for *Szőlős* from a linguistic and onomastic perspective. To do so, I analyze relevant sections of key historical works on this name type, historical-etymological dictionaries that have previously studied the name, entries on *szőlő* and *szőlős* from older glossaries and dictionaries, linguistic history dictionaries, etymological dictionaries, dictionaries of geographical common names, as well as explanatory and dialect dictionaries. Through this examination, I aim to determine the meanings in which these two lexemes were used in different historical periods. Did one or both exhibit typical adjectival usage? Did they primarily refer to a geographical area ('land where grapes are grown') or to an occupation ('vine-grower')? Additionally, I explore the extent to which these lexemes overlapped in meaning. To support my analysis, I also draw on evidence from Old Hungarian micronames and early personal names.

As a result of this study, the most probable origin of the Early Old Hungarian settlement name *Szőlős* emerges.

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