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CHESTNUT-MOTIVATED NON-SETTLEMENT NAMES IN BOHEMIA

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The paper contributes to the research of toponyms with tree elements by presenting findings of formal, lexical-semantic and motivational analysis of 231 anoikonyms from the area of Bohemia which include the Czech appellative kaštan 'chestnut' or its derivatives (the nouns kaštánek, kaštanka, kaštanovka, kaštanice, and the adjectives kaštanový, kaštánkový). The research has revealed that the vast majority of the anoikonyms relate to the horse chestnut (Aesculus hippocastanum), while only two names are motivated by the sweet chestnut (Castanea sativa). This reflects the occurrence of these two tree-species in Czechia: while the horse chestnut is widely spread in the whole of the country, sweet chestnut is rather rare, being planted only in parks and gardens in warmer regions. Most of the names are prepositional phrases which include a preposition and the common noun kaštan and indicate the localization of the object (mostly a field or another piece of land) in the vicinity of chestnut trees: a solitary tree, a group of trees, an orchard or a chestnut-tree lined road. A large number of names contain the diminutive kaštánek 'small chestnut'. We assume that these names mostly do not relate to small trees. The use of a diminutive in the name usually reflects the name giver's emotional relationship towards a particular chestnut tree rather than the tree's size. It is a well-known fact that anoikonyms reflect the history and culture of a particular country or a region. In the instance of chestnut-related anoikonyms, this can be illustrated by names reflecting the old Czech tradition to plant certain tree-species near Christian wayside shrines (small chapels, crosses, statues, etc.).

Keywords: toponymy, non-settlement names in Bohemia, the common noun kaštan 'chestnut', name analysis, naming motive.

МІКРОТОПОНІМИ В ЧЕХІЇ, МОТИВАЦІЙНО ПОВ'ЯЗАНІ З КАШТАНОМ

Зірнутова М.

Мета статті – зробити внесок у вивчення топонімів, мотиваційно пов'язаних із назвами дерев. Увагу зосереджено на формальному, лексико-семантичному та мотиваційному аналізі 231 аноїконіма з території Чехії, які містять апелятив kaštan або його похідні (іменники kaštánek, kaštanka, kaštanovka, kaštanice та прикметники kaštanový, kaštánkový). Дослідження засвідчило, що переважна більшість цих назв була мотивована наявністю гіркокаштану звичайного (кінського каштану) (Aesculus hippocastanum) і лише дві назви

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пов'язані з каштаном їстівним (*Castanea sativa*). Це відповідає розповсюдженості цих двох видів дерев у Чеській Республіці: гіркокаштан звичайний (кінський каштан) поширений по всій країні, натомість каштан їстівний трапляється рідше, його вирощують лише в парках і садах у більш теплих районах. Серед досліджуваних анойконімів переважають прийменникові назви, що містять прийменник та апелятив *kaštan* і позначають об'єкти (переважно поля та інші угіддя) відповідно до їхнього розташування стосовно каштана, зокрема щодо окремого дерева, групи дерев, алеї чи саду. Велика кількість назв містить зменшувальну форму *kaštánek*. Припускаємо, що ці анойконіми не позначають невеликі дерева, а радше виражають емоційне ставлення номінатора до дерева, про яке йдеться. Мікротопоніми, як відомо, відображають історію та культуру певної країни чи регіону. Щодо мікротопонімів, мотиваційно пов'язаних із каштаном, це можна показати на прикладі назв, які нагадують про давній чеський звичай висаджувати певні види дерев біля невеликих релігійних пам'яток, таких, як каплиці, хрести, фігури святих тощо.

Ключові слова: топонімія, мікротопоніми Чехії, апелятив *kaštan*, аналіз назв, мотивування називання

Introduction of the issue. Trees have always played an important role in human life. Besides other benefits, they can serve as a relatively stable point of orientation in the landscape. Large solitary trees, as well as groups of trees or tree-lined roads, are often well visible from distance and well-known within the local community. They attract attention and can be easily used to identify objects in their vicinity. Therefore, the occurrence of trees represents a relatively frequent naming motive in toponymy [4: 267]. Tree-motivated place names are to be found in considerable numbers all over the Czech Republic and constitute a large and significant group of both settlement and non-settlement names.

Terminology. In Czech toponomastics, it is usual to distinguish between two groups of place names (toponyms): settlement names (oikonyms) and non-settlement names (anoikonyms). Whereas settlement names designate settlements (towns, villages), non-settlement names are used for uninhabited objects and can be divided into many categories (hydronyms, oronyms, hodonoms, field-names, etc.). Unlike in some other languages, in Czech these two groups of toponyms differ significantly not only in the type of object they denote but also in many structural and semantical aspects. Therefore, it is a common practice to deal with them separately. Though the term *microtoponym* (often defined as a name only known to a limited number

of people, for example the inhabitants of a village) could be applied to most non-settlement names, Czech scholars predominantly prefer not to use it, for this approach would exclude non-settlement names known to a larger group of people (for example the inhabitants of a bigger region or the whole country).

However, between the two presented groups of names (oikonyms and anoikonyms), there is a transitional name category. It consists of names denoting settlement objects situated outside a town or a village: various buildings or groups of buildings (solitary houses, farms, pubs, gamekeeper's lodges, cottages, mills, etc.). Although these names actually belong to oikonyms (they denote settlement objects), in Czech, they are structurally and semantically very close to anoikonyms. Hence, there is a common practice in Czech onomastics to examine them together with anoikonyms. Building names have also become a part of the non-settlement name collection (see below) used in our research. Therefore, they have been also included in our analysis.

Literature overview. The issue of tree-motivated Czech place names has already been the subject of several toponomastic studies. While a large part of the research has been so far devoted to settlement names, less attention has been paid to tree-related names of unsettled objects. V. Šmilauer [16] mainly examined the names originating

in Czech words meaning 'forest', for instance *hvozd*, *les*, *háj*, *doubrava* ('deciduous forest'), *bor* ('coniferous forest'), but also touched the issue of place names (chiefly oikonyms) motivated by particular tree/shrub-species, namely fruit trees (apple, pear, cherry, plum trees, etc.), grapevine and hop plants. W. Sperling [15] dealt with the topic, but the scope of his research work was much broader. Besides the settlement and non-settlement names motivated by trees, he also paid attention to names related to a forest in general, forest economy, deforestation, etc. Finally, a recent publication by K. Dufková [4] offers the most detailed analysis of Czech settlement names motivated by trees and shrubs.

However, there are certain tree-species which have never been examined in Czech toponymy. None of the works mentioned here has paid attention to place names motivated by the occurrence of (horse or sweet) chestnut trees. As for the scholars solely concerned with settlement names, the reason is obvious: chestnut-motivated oikonyms do not occur in Czech toponymy (the reasons for this absence will be discussed later). W. Sperling [15] was the only researcher who also took anoikonyms into consideration but his name sources were limited, his study is by no means exhaustive and not all tree-species have been included into his research. Consequently, the occurrence of the appellative *kaštan* 'chestnut' in Czech place names has never been properly examined. Moreover, as far as we know, no in-depth analysis of chestnut-motivated toponyms has been carried out elsewhere, though studies on place names motivated by trees have also been published in other Slavic countries, for example in Poland [9] or Ukraine [10].

The aim of the paper is to fill the current research gap by providing the results of a linguistic analysis of non-settlement names in Bohemia (western half of the Czech Republic) originating in the appellative *kaštan*. This Czech common noun can refer to

two tree-species: either to the horse chestnut (*Aesculus hippocastanum*), called *jírovec maďal* in Czech botanical nomenclature, or the sweet chestnut (*Castanea sativa*), having a Czech botanical name *kaštanovník jedlý* or *kaštanovník setý*.

Our research is based on 231 anoikonyms motivated by the occurrence of chestnut trees, included in the *Alphabetical General Catalogue of Non-Settlement Names in Bohemia* which is stored in the Archive of the Onomastic Department of the Czech Language Institute, Czech Academy of Sciences, in Prague [1]. The catalogue, containing approximately 450,000 items, has been created as excerpts from the lists of non-settlement names worked out by voluntary informants from the individual villages in the years 1963–1980. It only includes anoikonyms from the area of Bohemia. The collection of Silesian and Moravian non-settlement names is stored in the Dialectology Department of the Czech Language Institute in Brno and is not accessible.

We will analyse the names both formally (examining their structure) and semantically (from the motivational point of view). As names originating in the appellative *kaštan* can be related to two tree-species, a particular attention will be paid to answering the question whether it was a horse chestnut or a sweet chestnut tree which had motivated the particular names. Finally, we will examine how the non-settlement names can reflect some aspects of history and culture in the given region.

Background information. According to J. Rejzek [12: 268], the appellative *kaštan*, used already in the Old Czech, descends from the Latin *castanea* (also a part of the scientific name of the sweet chestnut), which derives from the Greek *kástanta* (pl.), whose origin is unclear. (Sometimes, it is linked to the Greek place names *Kastanis*, *Kastanea*, but both toponyms are probably named after the trees, not the other way around.) The same applies to the Slovak *gaštan*, Polish *kasztan*, or the Ukrainian *каштáн*. Whereas in The Mediterranean, the

words in question have denoted sweet chestnut, in Czech, the appellative *kaštan* is also used to designate *Aesculus Hippocastanum* – probably because it produces similar seeds.

The horse chestnut (*Aesculus hippocastanum*) is a tall deciduous tree with a large crown, growing to about 30 metres. Originally native to the Balkans, it has been cultivated almost in the whole of Europe. It was introduced into Central Europe in the 16th century: the first seeds were taken from Istanbul to the Vienna Botanical Garden in 1576. Today, it is widely cultivated in streets, parks, gardens, avenues and along roads in the whole of the Czech Republic, except for mountainous regions [14: 5: 161–162].

In Czechia, the sweet chestnut (*Castanea sativa*) is not as widespread as the horse chestnut. This deciduous tree which attains a height of 20–30 m is planted mostly for its edible seeds (chestnuts). Native to Southern Europe and Asia Minor, it is widely cultivated across The Mediterranean region.

In Bohemia, where it has been known since the 16th century, it is planted only in warmer regions (most of the locations are at an altitude of 200–500 m). Except for several old orchards, sweet chestnuts nowadays occur mostly as solitary trees or groups of trees in parks and gardens [6: 2: 20–21].

Results and discussion: (1) Named objects and formal aspects. In the research material, a total of 231 non-settlement names motivated by the occurrence of chestnut trees have been recorded. They are found in the whole of Bohemia, with most instances in central Bohemia. Over half of the anoikonyms (132 names) include the non-derived noun *kaštan* and more than a quarter (66 names) its diminutive form *kaštánek* ‘small chestnut’. Other lexical items (the nouns *kaštanka/kaštánka*, *kaštanovka*, *kaštanice*; the adjectives *kaštanový* and *kaštánkový*) occur much less frequently. See Table 1.

Table 1

Lexical item	Suffix	Number of names
Kaštan	0	132
Kaštánek	-ek	66
kaštanka/kaštánka	-ka	17 (11+6)
Kaštanovka	-ovka	7
Kaštanice	-ice	1
Kaštanový	-ový	7
Kaštánkový	(kaštánek +) -ový	1
Total		231

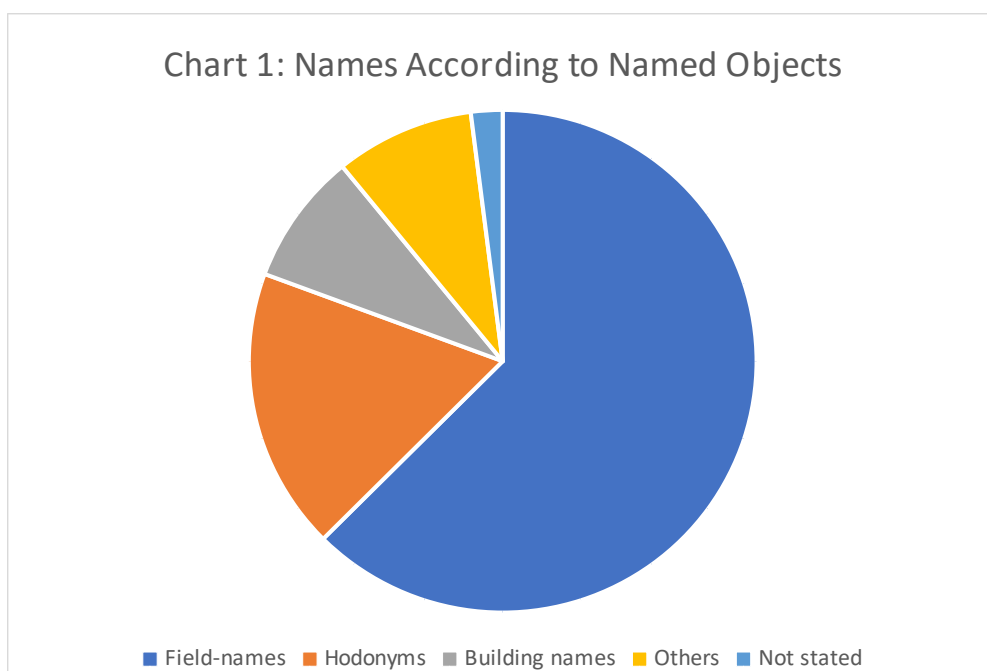
231 recorded non-settlement names relate to 248 objects (one name can relate to more than one object). Field-names (names of fields, forests, meadows, pastures, etc.), toponyms (names of roads, paths, avenues) and building names (names of houses, groups of houses, farms, pubs, etc.) occur most frequently. Other objects, such as hydronyms (names of ponds, springs, wells, brooks), oronyms (names of hills) or dendronyms (names of individual trees) are much less frequent. See Chart 1.

Most of the anoikonyms including the appellative *kaštan* (127 names) are

prepositional phrases. The names *U kaštanu* [By the chestnut tree] and *U kaštanů* [By the chestnut trees] are the most frequent instances; they designate various objects in the vicinity of a chestnut tree or a group of (two or more) chestnut trees. Other examples of prepositional names include *Pod kaštanem*, *Pod kaštany*, *V kaštanech* [Under the chestnut tree, Under the chestnut trees, At the chestnut trees]. Only four names are non-prepositional: the name *Kaštany* [Chestnut trees] occurring three times and the dendronym *Pitřův kaštan* [Piter's chestnut tree]. However, three of these

non-prepositional anoikonyms also have a prepositional name variant: *Vkaštanech* [At the chestnut trees],

occurring twice, and *U Pitřů pod kaštanem* [By the Piter's family under the chestnut tree].



The name *Pitřův kaštan*, containing the surname Piter, deserves a comment. Documented in the list of non-settlement names in the town of Třebechovice pod Orebem (near Hradec Králové), it denoted a chestnut tree which is said to be planted by Josef Bonaventura Piter (1708–1764), who later became the abbot of the Benedictine abbey of Rajhrad. According to the town chronicle, the tree was planted in a garden belonging to the Piter's family in 1720. Later on, this part of the garden became a well-known place where learned citizens held their meetings. The chestnut tree had to be cut down in 1891. For long, the town museum had deposited a part of this “legendary” tree in its collections [13: 16].

The anoikonyms with the appellative *kaštan* can be characterized not only by the prevalence of prepositional phrases, but also by the absence of names with an attribute. Apart from the above-mentioned name *Pitřův kaštan*, the only examples of such anoikonyms are five names containing the numerals *tři* ‘three’ and *čtyři* ‘four’: the name *U tři kaštanů* [By three chestnut trees] occurs

four times, the name *U čtyřech kaštanů* [By four chestnut trees] once.

As stated above, anoikonyms including the diminutive *kašánek* are also frequent. They occur in the whole of Bohemia, with the highest concentration in eastern and north-eastern Bohemia, almost no instances occurring in the south and south-west. Compared to the names including the common noun *kaštan*, those with its diminutive form occur more frequently without a preposition (eight names): The singular name without an attribute *Kašánek* is recorded twice, the plural form *Kašánky* five times. A name with an attribute (*Dubinské kašánky*) has also been documented. However, prepositional names, such as *U kašánku*, *V kašánkách*, *Ke kašánku* [By the small chestnut tree, At the small chestnut trees, Towards the small chestnut tree], again prevail.

The common noun *kašanka* meaning ‘a chestnut-tree lined road or a chestnut orchard’ occurs in names in two forms, either *kašanka* or *kašánka*. Anoikonyms with both forms are found exclusively in the northern half of

Bohemia. Eight names are non-prepositional (*Kaštanka* or *Kaštánka*) and denote chestnut orchards, chestnut-tree lined avenues, roads or paths. The best-known instance is the oldest Czech sweet chestnut orchard *Kaštanka* in Nasavrky near Chrudim (in eastern Bohemia), founded at the end of the 16th century. The rest of the names are prepositional phrases designating chestnut-tree lined avenues, alleys, and objects in their vicinity. No name with an attribute has been recorded. As for distribution of the two variants (*kaštanka* and *kaštánka*), no specific areas can be outlined. Moreover, in the district of Nové Strašecí (in central Bohemia), the two different forms have been recorded in two villages which are located within four km of one another (the forest *Kaštanka* in Mšecké Žehrovice and the park *V kaštánce* in Srbeč).

Seven names contain the lexical item *kaštanovka* which is not included as an appellative in Czech dictionaries. Again, the names denote chestnut-tree lined avenues, roads or paths (often found in towns). The examples include the road *Kaštanovka* in Písek or the former avenue *Kaštanovka* in Čáslav. While the appellative *kaštanka* /*kaštánka* can denote both an avenue and an orchard, the noun *kaštanovka* (at least in names) only relates to avenues and alleys. The name *Kaštanka* in Zbiroh, with a name variant *Kaštanovka*, proves that the meanings of the two nouns partially overlap. The anoikonyms including the lexical item *kaštanovka* occur in the above delimited area of the occurrence of the anoikonyms containing the appellative *kaštanka* /*kaštánka*, exceeding it only in the south towards Příbram and Písek districts.

The lexical item *kaštanice* occurs in names only once: in the field name *V kaštanici*, recorded in the village of Skalsko near Mladá Boleslav (in central Bohemia). Unfortunately, the non-settlement name list from Skalsko does not provide any information about the name and the noun *kaštanice* is not included in Czech dictionaries. We assume that the meaning is similar to

that of the nouns *kaštanovka* and *kaštanka* (a chestnut-tree lined road or perhaps a chestnut orchard), but the material does not allow us to provide a more precise definition.

The adjective *kaštanový* 'related to chestnut trees' appears in seven anoikonyms. They are often hodonyms, again designating chestnut-tree lined avenues, roads or paths, or pieces of land named after a nearby chestnut avenue or a group of chestnut trees. Examples include the names *Kaštanová* [The chestnut path], *Kaštanová álej* [The chestnut avenue], *Kaštanová louka* [The chestnut meadow]. The adjective *kaštánkový* 'related to small chestnut trees' appears only in one name: the hodonym *Kaštánková cesta* [The path lined by small chestnut trees] in Stará Huť near Dobříš (in central Bohemia).

(2) Naming motivation: general aspects. The non-settlement names originating in the appellative *kaštan* are motivated by the occurrence of (horse or sweet) chestnut trees: a solitary tree, a group of (two or more) trees, an avenue, an orchard or a garden.

The objects are most frequently named after their location near a large, old, solitary or otherwise remarkable chestnut tree. In the lists of non-settlement names, such a tree may be characterised as *starý* [old], *velký* [big], *mohutný* [huge], *statný* [sturdy], *vzrostlý* [full-grown] or *osamělý* [solitary]. For instance, the field *U kaštanu* [By the chestnut tree] in Syrov near Pelhřimov (in south-eastern Bohemia) is situated "near a large chestnut tree"; the pub *Pod kaštanem* [Under the chestnut tree] in Drozdice near Pardubice (in eastern Bohemia) is named "after a full-grown chestnut tree". As for the latter example, it is worth noting that the name *Pod kaštanem*, which occurs in our research material several times, has been a very frequent name of pubs and restaurants in the Czech Republic up to the present.

Interestingly, the same motivation also applies to anoikonyms originating in the diminutive *kaštánek*. The explanation of the particular name, provided by the author of the non-settlement name list,

in most cases does not state that the object is named after a small or young tree. On the contrary, the tree in question is, exactly like in the previous instances, characterised as big, old, huge, etc. For instance, the hill *Na kaštánku* [On the small chestnut tree] in Voděrády near Mladá Boleslav (in central Bohemia) was named "after a huge chestnut tree which used to grow in the fields"; the field *U kaštánku* [By the small chestnut tree] in Proloh near Rychnov nad Kněžnou (in eastern Bohemia) relates to "a large, shade tree which dominates the landscape"; the field *Pod kaštánkem* [Under the small chestnut tree] in Červený Kostelec near Náchod (in eastern Bohemia) was named "after a well-visible tree".

There are only few names with the diminutive *kaštánek* which are considered to be related to a small or young tree by the author of the non-settlement name list: the meadow *Pod kaštánkem* [Under the small chestnut tree] in Keblice near Litoměřice (in north-western Bohemia) relates to "an old, underdeveloped chestnut tree"; the forest *U Kaštánku* [By the small chestnut tree] in Kunvald-Zaječiny near Žamberk (in eastern Bohemia) bears a name based on its location "near a chestnut tree which did not prosper well and had withered in the end. Now, a newly planted tree is growing there". However, even in these cases, the name may have originated at the time when the tree in question was relatively big and could serve as a point of orientation, helping to identify objects in its vicinity. For a small tree, this is less probable.

In Czech, the primary function of diminutives is to express small size, height, etc. However, they can also be used to express familiarity, informality and endearment [3: 112]. Therefore, it is obvious that in most of the non-settlement names, the reason for the use of a diminutive was not the tree's limited height but emotional reasons, i. e. the expression of positive emotions name givers felt towards a particular tree (avenue, orchard, etc.). This function of

diminutives in anoikonyms, already observed by J. Pleskalová [11: 69], explains both the large quantity of non-settlement names containing the diminutive *kaštánek* and the seemingly illogical explanations connecting the names to tall and big trees, which occur in many non-settlement name lists.

However, not only solitary chestnut trees (or groups of several trees) have motivated the names. Another large group of anoikonyms is related to horse chestnut-tree lined roads which are found in many Czech towns and villages. Leading to castles, churches, monasteries and pilgrimage places, as well as through town parks or along local roads, tree-lined avenues and alleys are a typical feature of the Czech landscape, especially in some regions. The horse chestnut, which is the largest flowering tree with a majestic appearance, belongs to the tree-species which have been planted in avenues and alleys most frequently (along with linden trees, ashes, maples, oaks and fruit trees).

Anoikonyms motivated by the presence of a chestnut-tree lined road, avenue etc. include the nouns *kaštan*, *kaštánek*, *kaštanka* /*kaštánka*, *kaštanovka* or the adjectives *kaštanový* and *kaštánkový*. They are predominantly hodonyms denoting the avenues, alleys, roads or paths themselves. Examples include the avenue/alley names: *V kaštanech* in Jemníky near Slaný (in central Bohemia); *Kaštanka* in Jirny near Prague; *Kaštanová álej* in Průhonice near Prague. In addition, other objects may be named according to their location in the vicinity of a chestnut-tree lined road. For instance, chestnut avenues lead along the fields *U kaštánky* in Ročov near Louny (in north-western Bohemia) and *U kaštanové aleje* in Štětice near Vodňany (in southern Bohemia).

Finally, the presence of a sweet chestnut orchard or a garden with horse chestnut trees has motivated some names. The best example is the name of the sweet chestnut orchard *Kaštanka* in Nasavrky. Furthermore, *Pod kaštany*

[Under the chestnut trees] is a former horse chestnut garden in Vojkov near Votice (in central Bohemia), *V kaštanech* [At the chestnut trees] is a house in Zdice near Beroun (in central Bohemia) situated near a garden with horse chestnut trees.

(3) Naming motivation: the horse chestnut or the sweet chestnut? Most of the non-settlement name lists provide the information that the given name was motivated by a chestnut tree. In most instances, however, it is not easy to determine whether it was a horse chestnut tree or a sweet chestnut tree which had motivated the particular name.

There are only few instances when the tree-species is clearly identified. For example, the field *U kaštanu* in Nový Ples near Jaroměř (in north-eastern Bohemia) "was named after a horse chestnut tree". In the case of the above-mentioned tree name *Pitřův kaštan* in Třebechovice pod Orebem, the name list provides the information that J. B. Piter "had planted a wild chestnut tree here", which undoubtedly relates to horse chestnut. In some instances, the tree-species is identified indirectly. For example, due to the information that "the seeds of the trees are fed to deer", concerning the field *U tří kaštanů* in Červené Pečky near Kolín (in central Bohemia), we can presume that the trees are horse chestnuts.

There are, nevertheless, other sources which can provide the information needed. Most importantly, P. Haltofová and L. Jankovský [5] have published a complete list of sweet chestnut localities in Czechia (including those where the occurrence has not been recently confirmed). Therefore, it was possible to compare our research material with the list and thus verify or disprove the occurrence of the sweet chestnut in a given locality.

The comparison has shown that, most probably, only two anoikononyms (out of 231) have been motivated by the occurrence of sweet chestnut. Besides the well-known sweet chestnut orchard *Kaštanka* in Nasavrky, the occurrence of

sweet chestnut trees has been confirmed in the case of the avenue *Kaštanka* in Slatiňany near Chrudim (in eastern Bohemia) where both tree-species are actually present [5: 264]. The results are not that surprising, considering the fact that the horse chestnut is wide-spread in the Czech Republic, whereas the sweet chestnut has been planted rather sporadically.

(4) Historical and cultural aspects reflected in the names. It is well-known that anoikononyms may reflect earlier conditions of the natural and cultural landscape in a particular country or a region. In the instance of chestnut-related non-settlement names, this can be illustrated by names reflecting the old Czech common practice of planting horse chestnut trees (as well as other tree-species, for example linden trees or oaks) near Christian (Catholic) wayside shrines, such as small chapels, wayside crosses, statues of saints, etc., which are typical for the Czech landscape.

Erected near roads and paths, at crossroads or along old pilgrim routes, they often commemorate a tragical accident which had happened near the site, but can also express gratitude or penance. They were meant to encourage passers-by to stop for a rest, prayer or reflection. Trees had beautified such a place and provided shade and shelter but were not planted close to wayside shrines only for aesthetical or practical purposes. They had also a symbolical function, being considered a symbol of life. It was usual to plant one or two trees near the shrine; in the latter case the chapel, the cross or the statue stood between the trees. In some instances, there could be even three (reminding of the Holy Trinity) or four trees at the site. However, a wayside shrine could be also erected at a place where a large tree already had grown [8: 12]. Together with the trees, the shrines also served as important points of orientation. Therefore, this phenomenon is reflected in anoikononyms. In the case of chestnut-motivated non-settlement names, there are three points worth mentioning:

Firstly, many anoikononyms originating in the appellative *kaštan* have a variant name which is related to a wayside shrine (plus the information about the occurrence of the shrine is often mentioned in the non-settlement name list from the particular village). For instance, the field *U kaštanu* [By the chestnut tree] in Radonice near Louny (in north-western Bohemia) has a variant name *U kapličky* [By the small chapel]. The author of the name list from the village of Radonice has recorded a short story related to this name: "There used to be a small chapel here, but a drunk postman has demolished it. Just a chestnut tree has remained until now." Other examples include: the field *U kaštanu* [By the chestnut tree] in Velké Zámčy near Mělník (in central Bohemia), also called *U křížku* [By the small cross]; the orchard *Pod kaštany* [Under the chestnut trees] in Suchomasty near Beroun (in central Bohemia), also called *U svatého Jána* [By the Statue of Saint John of Nepomuk]; the field *U kaštanů* [By the chestnut trees] in Budyně nad Ohří near Litoměřice (in north-western Bohemia), formerly called *U svaté Anny* [By the Statue of Saint Anna], etc.

Secondly, in some cases such a variant name does not exist (or has not been recorded) but the information about the occurrence of a wayside shrine at the site can be found in the list of non-settlement names. For instance, the field *U kaštanu* [By the chestnut tree] in Radim near Jičín (in north-eastern Bohemia) is located near a chestnut tree growing close to a stone cross; another name *U kaštanu* belongs to a site in Mirošov near Rokycany (in south-western Bohemia) where a cross used to stand between two chestnut trees; *U kaštanu* is also a name of a crossroads in Velká near Příbram (in central Bohemia) where a solitary chestnut tree and a cross are found.

Thirdly, there are two anoikononyms which include both the appellative *kaštan* and the appellative *kříž* meaning 'cross': the field-names *U kříže pod kaštanem* [By the cross under the

chestnut tree] in Tuchlovice near Kladno and *U kříže u kaštanu* [By the cross by the chestnut tree] in Jemníky near Slaný (both in central Bohemia). In these two instances, it is obvious that the name *U kříže* needed a further specification for there were probably more crosses in the villages and it was necessary to differ between them.

(5) Additional remarks. Nowadays, the horse chestnut is in danger both in the Czech Republic and other European countries as the horse chestnut leaf miner (*Cameraria ohridella*) causes severe damage to the trees [7: 47]. This, in combination with other threats, might lead to a decline in number of horse chestnut trees in the landscape as there might be tendencies to replace them with other species. What impact this situation might have on chestnut-related non-settlement names is beyond the scope of this work. However, we will briefly touch the issue by providing two examples. They concern two identical names (homononyms), both motivated by horse chestnut trees which had to be cut down.

The first example is of an avenue name *Kaštanka* (also called *Kaštanovka*) in Zbiroh (in western Bohemia), documented in the non-settlement name list from 1970. Founded in the 19th century, this horse chestnut-tree lined avenue lead from the village of Švabín to the Zbiroh castle. According to B. Šopejstalová [17], the trees had to be cut down because of their bad condition caused by horse chestnut leaf miner damage and other threats. In 2015, the local authorities decided to renew the avenue. However, instead of horse chestnut trees, linden trees were planted along the road. In connection with this development, the road has acquired an official name *Pod parkem* [Below the park] and the name *Kaštanka* is not used anymore.

Another is the situation of a horse chestnut-tree lined alley *Kaštanka* in Jirny near Prague, documented in the non-settlement name list from 1973. According to M. Bednář [2: 8–9], the trees were planted in 1850s or 1860s

and the alley had soon become very popular with local inhabitants. However, in 1990s, some of the old trees had been severely damaged by the horse chestnut leaf miner. In combination with earlier damage, the condition of many trees became very bad and there was a danger of their falling on passers-by. Therefore, it was decided in 2015 to cut off a total of 48 trees. However, in an effort to preserve the horse chestnut alley, 58 new horse chestnut trees were planted there. Nowadays, in spite of many threats, the alley *Kaštanka* still exists and is known under the same name.

The examples presented above have shown that the situation of various objects named after threatened horse chestnut trees does not have to be the same and also the impact on the names can differ depending on many factors.

Conclusion and research perspectives. The Czech common noun *kaštan* is used to denote two tree-species: the horse chestnut (*Aesculus hippocastanum*) and the sweet chestnut (*Castanea sativa*). Not native to Central Europe, these two tree-species were introduced to this region as late as in the 16th century. This late introduction has resulted in the absence of settlement names motivated by (horse or sweet) chestnut trees because these names are usually older than that. However, chestnut-motivated non-settlement names have been recorded in a relatively great number. The reason is clear. Except for a few specific types (hydronyms, oronyms), anoikonyms are usually younger than oikonyms. Most of them have originated later than the 16th century, that is at the time when especially horse chestnut trees had been widely spread throughout the area of today's Czech Republic and could easily stand for a naming motive.

In Bohemia, 231 anoikonyms including the Czech appellative *kaštan* or its derivatives (namely the nouns *kaštánek*, *kaštanka/kaštánka*, *kaštanovka*, *kaštanice*, and the adjectives *kaštanový*, *kaštánkový*) have

been recorded. A large number of the names contain the diminutive *kaštánek*. We assume that these names mostly do not relate to small trees. The use of a diminutive in the name usually reflects the name giver's emotional relationship to a particular tree rather than its size.

The anoikonyms are most often field-names and hodonyms. Chestnut-related dendronyms are not that frequent, but they occur. It is typical for this name category that the names usually consist of an appellative denoting a particular tree-species and a personal name of a well-known person who is said to be somehow related to that particular tree. This often involves a legend saying that the person had planted the tree, picnicked under it etc. An example of such a name is *Pitřuv kaštan* to which a legend about a future abbot planting the tree is related.

Almost all of the anoikonyms have been motivated by horse chestnut, only two names relate to sweet chestnut. This reflects the distribution of these two tree-species in the Czech Republic: while horse chestnut is widely spread in the whole of the country, sweet chestnut is rather rare, being planted only in parks and gardens in warmer regions. The large number of non-settlement names motivated by horse chestnut is not surprising for these trees are often very tall and attractive, having a large crown and striking blossoms. Both solitary horse chestnut trees and their groups attract attention and could easily refer to precise locations within the village and motivate the names of various objects in their vicinity.

While many Czech anoikonyms include an attribute, which helps to characterize the object more precisely, this tendency has not been observed in non-settlement names motivated by chestnut trees. We assume that the reason for this is the fact that the trees which have motivated the names are themselves striking and usually well known by local people. They can be really old, exceptionally large, well visible, solitary or otherwise interesting. Therefore, everyone in the local

community knows which horse chestnut tree the particular name refers to and there is no need for further specification.

The anoikononyms originating in the appellative *kaštan* bear witness of the rather scarce sweet chestnut cultivation in the Czech Republic, as well as a great popularity of horse chestnut-tree lined avenues and planting horse chestnut trees in the vicinity of both buildings (i. e. pubs) and Christian wayside shrines (i.e. small chapels, crosses, statues, etc.). However, unfortunately, the future of horse chestnut trees (and perhaps also some

chestnut-related non-settlement names) is questionable.

While the names motivated by the occurrence of horse chestnut trees are related to a tree-species which is in danger, it is even more important to explore them. Whereas we have examined chestnut-related non-settlement names in Bohemia, it would be desirable to carry out similar research also in other parts of the Czech Republic: Moravia and Silesia. Moreover, future studies could focus on chestnut-motivated non-settlement names in other Slavic countries and compare the results with our findings.

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