

**LITHUANIAN MYTHOLOGICAL TOPONYMS:
PLACE-NAMES RELATED TO THE MYTHOLOGICAL LEXEME *LAUMĖ***

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Summary

In the card files of the place-names recorded from the live language, preserved at the Onomastics Department of the Institute of Lithuanian Language, there are quite a number of place-names that potentially could be derived from the name of a certain mythological being. They make a distinct class of onyms (proper names), comprising all the elements of one kind, and can be named Lithuanian mythological toponyms (or mythonyms). The segregation of a separate class of such toponyms seems motivated.

In this paper we discuss the place-names related to the mythological lexeme *laumė*, also pointing out their localization and usage. Having examined this data, it is possible to determine what places in Lithuania, what natural objects could have been related to the mythological beings called *laumės*, what objects are named by those place-names, and what is their distribution on the territory of Lithuania. Additionally, having applied the structural-grammatical classification of Lithuanian hydronyms elaborated by A. Vanagas (it could be applied to other layers of Lithuanian onomastics as well), the derivational analysis of toponyms with the root *laum-* is performed. It contributes to the explanation of the origins of the place-names, providing a lot of important information on the derivation methods and types inherent in these place-names, and on the means of derivation in general.