



## LEXICO-SEMANTIC ANALYSIS OF ENGLISH UNITS WITH PHYTONYMIC COMPONENT.

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### ***Abstract***

*This article is devoted to the lexical-semantic analysis of English units with a phytonymic component. The subject of this article is the lexical-semantic analysis and characteristics of such phraseological units. Special attention is paid to actual lexical-semantic features of the term "phytonym" is defined. The problem of studying the semantics of phraseological units is one of the most important issues of theoretical linguistics, therefore, the study of the meaning and structure of language units occupies one of the main places in modern linguistic research. The meaning of the language is explained by its dissimilarity, because different aspects of the language are formed and determined by the lexical and semantic systems of the language, as a result of reflecting the social objective reality.*

### **Introduction**

The motivation for creating the phraseological fund of any language is an effective stage in its formation, with various modifications. According to linguistic literature, many classifications provide equivalency. The phraseological fund of any language is a knowledge base and a compressed form of folk wisdom. It includes precedent texts



present in its units. It comprises set expressions of various levels of nuclear stability. Idioms, clichés, proverbs serve as paremiological tools. The diversity of fixed expressions, their unique characteristics, constructive and evaluative phraseology, can be seen not only as a field of science but also as various sources of linguistics. For a long time, empirical data has been processed to study and organize phraseological units, to explore their evolution, design comparative typologies, and analyze or work with combinations. The lexical meaning of a phraseological unit is one of its categorical features, revealing itself practically not only in the text but also in context, through lexicographic description and interpretation. Phraseological stability arises as a result of reinterpreting the meaning of words subject to phraseological modification, including lexical combinations and variables. The people's need for refined expressions that enrich the language is often the sole expression of a particular meaning. This process, without a doubt, facilitates capturing nuances that cannot be conveyed with individual words in a phraseological worldview.

### **RESEARCH SUPPLIES AND TECHNIQUES**

The study of phytonyms is based on the evolution of the plant world in culture as well as the cognitive qualities that nominative words create and reflect. Therefore, the study of phytonyms enables the linguistic and terminological resolution of a number of problems. Determining the semantic scope of "phytonym," given its widespread use in linguistics, is one of the most urgent problems pertaining to the history of phytonymy. This is because the term lacks a commonly agreed-upon definition. In contrast to plant nomenclature and scientific naming, phytonyms are recognized as botanical units. This lexical group's words have significant qualities that should be taken into account when studying them. The importance of plants in human life is the reason linguists are interested in the plant kingdom. The use of phytonyms continues mythological, religious, and literary traditions. Phytomorphism, linked to early forms of thinking, conveys concepts derived from this form in language. Phytonyms continue



to attract the attention of numerous researchers, and their study is now widespread. They are examined in various types of discourse (literary, poetic, scientific, and political) and are analyzed both in a single language and in comparative RESEARCH RESULTS Many plants are seen as icons of England. These emblems represent aspects of the country's folk culture, including values, traditions, and realism. A symbol reflects truth and has cultural, figurative, and objective connotations. Plants can express and embody mythical concepts about their surroundings, leading some to be interpreted as prototype symbols studies across languages.

## RESEARCH RESULTS

Many plants are seen as icons of England. These emblems represent aspects of the country's folk culture, including values, traditions, and realism. A symbol reflects truth and has cultural, figurative, and objective connotations. Plants can express and embody mythical concepts about their surroundings, leading some to be interpreted as prototype symbols. There are two main groups of the potential connotations of phytonyms:

1. Objective plant characteristics, such as appearance, practical uses, edibility or inedibility, and other physical properties.
2. Cultural characteristics, including religious significance and the mythological origins of plant names.

Semantic features in the linguistic view of the world provide the crucial systematic function. Based on semantic features shared across definitions, lexical units are organized into series, groups, and paradigms, forming the lexical system of a language.

## Discussion

By examining English phraseological units that contain phytonymic elements, we are able to classify the following groups according to their meaning: 1. Appearance



This group includes lexical units based on the resemblance of the described things' appearances:

Strawberry mark: "A permanent deep red mark on a person's skin, present since birth."

The phytonym "carrot" is often used in phraseological expressions: "Many carrots have green eyes," referring to people with green eyes.

Carrot top: Refers to a person with orange-colored hair.

Another example is the phrase "as fresh as a daisy": "I met Molly the other day. She looked as fresh as a daisy." This expression describes someone who appears youthful and full of life.

The following phraseological unit in this category is "as two peas in a pod", meaning "very similar or identical." In the Cambridge English Idioms Dictionary, this idiom conveys the idea of being "very much alike" or "having the same appearance, behavior, or way of thinking". This idiom describes the similarity between two objects, as it has an inherent sense of "likeness."

## 2) Personal Traits

This group consists of phraseological units formed by reinterpreting plant characteristics.

The word straw in the phraseological unit "straw man" carries a semi-meaning of "fragility, lack of trust." The modern English dictionary defines straw as "the long, dried stems of plants that are easily broken" (Thompson & Soanes, 1996; Watson, 1976). This trait is applied to the phraseological unit "a person with a weak character."

Another phraseological unit in this group is "shrinking violet", meaning "a shy or timid person." The violet is a symbol of modesty and purity in the culture of English-speaking societies.



The phrase "a small dog, tall grass" includes the phytonym "weeds" and refers to "any wild plant growing in an undesirable place, especially in a garden or field". This expression conveys the idea that "the growth of foreign plants obstructs the free growth of cultural plants." Therefore, the meaning of this phraseological unit is "a person who lacks the necessary abilities or resources to perform a task."

### 3) Similarity of Action.

This group consists of phraseological units based on the metaphorical reinterpretation of actions, where the objects are phytonyms.

"To bite off more than one can chew": This expression means "to put in excessive effort into a task that is easy to do". Since cherries are small fruits typically consumed in one bite, this idiom, when used to describe an action, implies that excessive (and unnecessary) effort was expended. In this sense, it reflects a semi-meaning of "meaninglessness or inefficiency."

The phrase "to nip in the bud" means "to stop something before it has a chance to develop". Its etymology is linked to the part of a plant, a bud, which will not develop into a leaf or flower if it is removed.

## CONCLUSION

This article highlights the importance of revealing the semantic potential of phytonym-based phraseological units and elucidating their meanings. The lexical-semantic analysis of these phraseological units has demonstrated their impact on everyday life and language. The study of phytonyms contributes to understanding the unique characteristics of people's cultural life, their lifestyles, and traditions. Based on the above, it can be concluded that phytonym-based phraseological units are semantically diverse, which allows for their classification into thematic groups based on connotative and pragmatic meanings. This classification contributes to the systematization of



phytonyms and enables further comparative analysis, including unrelated language studies.

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