Summary

Three Danish *-løse* names

By Lennart Elmevik

The three place-names that are the main focus of this article are *Særløse* and *Sengløse* on the Danish island of Zealand and *Grindløse* on Funen. The author rejects an interpretation of these names as compounded with the 'absence-denoting' element *-løse*, Swedish *-lösa*, which refers to a lack of whatever is described in the first element. Instead, he argues that they incorporate 'genuine' *-løse/-lösa*, an element usually taken to mean 'clearing in a forest, glade, meadow'. Briefly, in the same perspective, he also touches on the interpretation of the name *Mellösa*, which occurs in four places in Sweden and which also has counterparts (in three cases) in Denmark. Summing up, the author says that, in his opinion, not a single example has been presented of a place-name of great age containing the absence-denoting element *-løse/-lösa*.