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’ -løsel-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 -løsel-lösa.