Töle in Björnlunda

By Svante Strandberg

Töle is a farm in Björnlunda parish in Södermanland. Early records of its name include (j) Tyladhe (1550), Tölede (1551, 1556) and Thöle (1642). The lack of medieval occurrences makes a definite interpretation of the name impossible. The records that are known, however, suggest that the final element contains the word ed(e) ‘road, path between or along waters; tongue of land’ etc., which in this case could refer to a ford. The first element of Töle may contain a river name, OSw. *Tyrdha f., formed from *tordh ‘dirt, mud’, or an OSw. *tyrdhe neut. ‘muddy ground, marshy ground’ or the like.