

## A DIALECT DICTIONARY OF THE LUBLIN REGION

### Volume VI. *Food*

Volume 6 of the *Dictionary of the Dialects of the Lublin Region*, titled *Food*, contains 2560 entries with 31 illustrations and 67 linguistic maps. The volume is a self-contained contribution, thematically defined, devoted to traditional folk dishes which include ingredients such as flour, potatoes, *kasha*, cabbage, peas, vegetables, fruits, meat and bones. The volume contains the descriptions of food names, kitchen dishes, parts of kitchen- and bread stoves as well as the ways of preparing dishes and bread-baking. However, this is neither a culinary map of the Lublin region, nor a cookery book or a list of recipes; this volume is a reflection of the collective memory and language awareness encapsulated in food names and ways of preparing food. Each entry bears an imprint of a particular memory token associated with the family home and the local and regional tradition passed from one generation to the next.

The vocabulary presented in this volume relates to the thematic domain of everyday life; it is often associated with poverty or fasting, but primarily with the observance of rites and customs relating to holidays, family reunions, rites of passage and seasons of the year. The vocabulary accompanies all phases of human life and work; it is part and parcel of everyday rural life and culture- and customs-related structure imbued with everyday *realia* and imagination of the people who have created it. The vocabulary points to the naming processes and the past creativity of the villagers as reflected in the wealth of regional synonyms for a given designatum such as, say, ‘placki ziemniaczane’ (‘potato pancakes’): *barabulaki*, *bliny*, *blińce*, *kartochlany*, *kartoflaki*, *kartoflarze*, *łapciuchy*, *łapki*, *łatki*, *osuchy*, *osuszki*, *pałynyczki*, *placki*, *placki kartoflane*, *placki z bulby*, *placki z kartofli*, *placki ziemniaczane*, *tarciuchy*, *targańczuchy*, *tarte placki*, *tartuchy*, *tartuny*, *tartuszki*, *tertuny*; or ‘the first or the last slice of a new loaf of bread’: *broad* (‘chin’), *brzeg* (‘edge’), *brzeżczek*, *brzeżek*, *całuszka* (from *całować* ‘kiss’), *cieluszka*, *dupka*, *garbuszka*, *haraszek*, *krajuszka*, *napiętek*, *okrojek*, *piętka*, *przylepa* (‘heel’), *przylepek*, *przylepka*, *przysuch*, *przysuszek*, *rożek*, *skrawek* (‘scrap’), *skrobek*, *skrojek*, *skrojka*, *uskrabek*, *zaharaszek*, *zajman*, *zajmanka*, *zajmowaniec*, *zalepa*, *zalepka*, *zapiętek*, *zapiętka*.

The folk and culinary descriptions recorded are structured according to the following cultural pattern: the names of the designata are associated with both everyday and festive rites and rituals; they also show that the preparation of dishes requires not only proper skills but also a great deal of specialist knowledge about the natural environment, land cultivation and cattle breeding. The names have an important documentary and practical value: they piece together all non-material cultural heritage, and being the latter’s topmost exponent, are fully accepted, recreated and incorporated by the villagers into the broader cultural and customs-related context. Culinary terms exhibit man’s linguistic sensitivity associated with the creation of a world’s image; they point to the provenance of food names, the ways food is prepared; they bear a testimony to the importance of customs and habits associated with a particular social group, with the place and the region; they intensify the inhabitants’ feeling of “rootedness” and their identity. The preparation of the dishes, the descriptions of the ways the products are combined, the time of the day, of the year or of a holiday with which the dishes are associated and the order in which they are served – all this is part and parcel of the cultural practices, recreated and handed over from one generation to the next. Being the visible symbols of culture, the names of dishes, so vividly evoked by the villagers, do not connote negative emotions, though; nor should they be associated with “backwardness in civilization.” In the case of other entries, including the elements of the kitchen- and bread-stove-construction or tools used for preparing dishes and old vessels, many designata no longer

exist; only the names evoking the image of the old village are a clear manifestation of the forefathers' tradition.

This book is the sixth volume of the multivolume dictionary set of the regional vocabulary which meets both intra- and inter-dialectal criteria. As in the case of the previous five volumes, the vocabulary has a non-differential character; each name entry is listed in an alphabetical order, it is inscribed in broader cultural and customs-related contexts and is accompanied by atlas-related techniques and iconography. The volume also offers a summary of the basic methodological assumptions and the editorial remarks as well as it provides information about the source material.

Compiled by the author of this volume, the material comes from the Lublin region, collected before the year 1975 and slightly modified since 1999 (see map 1). The material has been excerpted from the recordings of the oldest inhabitants of 637 villages of the region (cf. the list of villages) – altogether from 2520 informants. The dictionary and its corpus contain (i) fieldwork tape-recordings, (ii) texts written down without sound documentation and (iii) recordings done by means of a questionnaire (without contextual exemplification). Additional material comes from the *Atlas gwar polskich*, [Atlas of Polish Dialects] (with no contextual illustration provided); *Atlas gwar Lubelszczyzny* (Atlas of the Dialects of the Lublin Region] (with no contextual information provided), linguistic archives, partly from MA and BA-papers, and other printed sources.

Each entry consists of the following elements:

- (i) an entry and its meaning have a real meaning form;
- (ii) the photo of a given designatum, placed at the end of the volume, is referred to by the referencing symbol *zob.* 'cf'.
- (iii) illustrative contexts;
- (iv) sources;
- (v) the term's geographical occurrence which is referred to by using a reference symbol to the map placed at the end of the dictionary;
- (vi) inflected forms and frequently used phonetic variants placed in the section *Pronunciation*;
- (vii) references made by using the symbol *por.* 'see' to refer to synonyms, i.e. naming variants associated with a particular village, and to heteronyms – variants of the names appearing in larger geographical areas.

In Volume 6 of *The Dictionary of the Dialects of the Lublin Region*, just as in the previous volumes, the standard Poland-wide type of orthographic notation is used. A unified, standardized half-phonetic notation is also used in the case of context-related entries, including the phonetic, morphological and syntactic properties of the dialects of the Lublin region.

An important part of the dictionary entry are the illustrations, the maps and the dictionary labels. The map performs the role of a visual geographic specification; this part of the entry ensures that not only the geographic information can be used more fully, but it also helps localize the lexeme in the contextual specificity of the regional dialects. The map provides the reader with the spatial localization of a given name, shows the range of the lexeme's occurrence (compact, isolated, scattered, sporadic, unevenly, centrally, peripherally), and points to the name's relationships to the lexemes of the neighbouring regions. Information of this sort has a defining character: it sheds light on the nature of the designatum's name, points to the place the name occupies in the system of its synonyms and heteronyms and indicates whether the designatum's occurrence as determined by the scope and geographical localization thereof is expanding or decreasing. The illustration provides a fuller identification of the designatum and of its visual characteristics.

The dictionary labels are not separate parts of the lexical entry, but are organized according to the methodology adopted in this volume: they provide dialectal contexts for the names evoked by the speakers. So conceived, the context-determined dictionary labels reflect the linguistic awareness of today's villagers, who, when using a designatum and its name, evoke the images of the past.

The volume *Food* is a document which records the linguistic heritage, and in accordance with the UNESCO Convention of 2003, fits well the protection policy of non-material cultural heritage of the region as well as the long-term research of fundamental importance to the heritage and national culture. In view of the changes which affect the contemporary dialects, this form of documentation is particularly challenging and becomes a cultural must for future generations.

The volume reflects the complex and multicultural nature of the Lublin region's dialectal system; it presents a diversified picture of linguistic phenomena with visible all-Poland, Lesser Poland, Mazovia and Easter Borderlands linguistic influences. Based on dialectal and ethnolinguistic considerations, the analysis of the material allows for a multifaceted characterization to be made not only of a particular name but also of the name's place in the cultural-, belief- and customs-related villagers' awareness of the Lublin region. The region is a bridge between the West and the East, but also between the European Union and Eastern Europe.

Volume 6 of *The Dictionary of the Dialects of the Lublin Region* is a work intended not only for scholars, though; it has a practical dimension, too. Its aim is not only to record and preserve the cultural and linguistic heritage of the Lublin region residing in the dialectal forms, but it ought to be seen as an important instrument in creating a "regional brand" designed to help promote the Lublin region. It aims at a wider circle of readers: not only linguists, but also scholars representing disciplines other than linguistics, regional artists, propagators of culture and teachers championing, through their regional educational programs, the idea of "little motherlands". Finally, the volume may be of interest to students of secondary schools who wish to grasp the essence of the linguistic and cultural heritage of their own region.

Translated by Henryk Kardela