

## **Direct and Indirect Designation in Medicinal Plants' Names**

**Nataliya Panasenko**

PhD Candidate in Germanic Languages

Dr. of Philology in General Linguistics

Professor of Linguistics

Faculty of Arts

University of SS Cyril and Methodius in Trnava

Trnava, Slovakia

Faculty of Germanic Philology

Kiev National Linguistic University

Kiev, Ukraine

### **Abstract**

*A plant as a nature object receives its name by different reasons. This name is formed thanks to direct designation and indirect one (metaphor, metonymy). The paper presents results of complex research of literary and common names of medicinal plants in Germanic and Slavic languages. The author uses word building and onomasiological analysis with the purpose to find out what important properties of the plant, its outlook, place of location, time of blossoming, etc. are reflected in its name.*

**Key words:** Direct and indirect designation, medicinal plant, onomasiological base and feature, metaphor, metonymy, cultural specific information

### **1. Introduction**

Perception of the world involves the fragmentation of reality, the distribution of its overall and different, combining the subjects based on their features in certain classes, which reflect the relationship of these features in the objects of reality. This process finds its expression in the nomenclature of lexical and grammatical language means. Numerous names of objects and phenomena are associated with different forms and different stages of human cognitive activity, and, ultimately, with the appearance of objective knowledge about the world. The result of this cognitive process is the classification, which should reflect and distribute the natural connections of significant features in things, phenomena, processes, etc. Kubriakova (1986, 42) indicates that the results of cognitive and classifying human activities are represented in the system of designation, which can be direct or indirect, primary or secondary, non-segmented and partitioned, literal or figurative.

### **2. Basics and types of designation**

There are various points of view concerning the essence of designation and understanding of terms "primary" and "secondary" designation. Teliya gives the following definition of designation: "the designation indicates both the process of creation, fixing and distribution of the name among different fragments of the reality and the meaningful language unit formed during naming" (Teliya, 1990, 336). I share Litvinova's point of view (Litvinova, 2004, 1) that lexical units are formed either during primary designation (the content of a name directly corresponds to the object), or secondary designation (indirectly, by reconsideration the value of already existing language unit) and use terms "direct" and "indirect" designation which perfectly match my language material. Phytonymic lexicon can be analyzed from different points of view. I have made word-building, onomasiological and cognitive analysis of medicinal plants' (MP) names in Romance, Germanic and Slavic languages. Now I want to present some results of onomasiological analysis in three Germanic (German, Dutch, and English) and five Slavic languages (Russian, Ukrainian, Polish, Czech, and Slovak) and to show how important information about the plant is encoded in its name..

How are the MPs named? Why do some plants have many names and other only few? The designation of MPs is a special kind of activity, as it stands between everyday and medical practice, as far as more names are given to those objects (plants), on which human activity is concentrated and which are of utilitarian interest. Giving names to the MPs, a man first of all sorts them out of the general class of plants, then identifies them with already known to him plants or objects, being guided thus by his sensual personal experience. The MP name can be considered as the original instruction: where this plant can be found, how it looks, when blossoms, at what disease it is the most effective and so forth.

### 3. *Onomasiological aspect of designation*

The use of onomasiological method in the analysis of phytonyms allows to reveal how different notions are reflected in semantics of these language units and to characterize this lexico-semantic group properly. My research is based on the tertiary model of a derivative and compound word developed by Kubriakova (1978) which includes onomasiological base, onomasiological feature and onomasiological predicate which further on will be simply called a base, a feature and a predicate.

As far as the object of my research is a MP, it is naturally to suppose that a lexical base in its name will be the plant itself or its part. But there are too many examples, in which the lexical base means smth. else: a man, a part of a human body, an animal, feeling, state, substance, different artefacts (dress, headdress, weapon, kitchen utensils, etc.). This leads us to primary and secondary designation of MPs and its cognitive interpretation. I want to find out what plants' properties are hidden in their names and where they are located: in features or in bases.

### 4. *Language material*

I am interested, what motivational features in the MP designation are most frequent in closely related and structurally different languages. In my corpus of the MPs' names in 10 languages, which consists of more than 10 000 phytonyms the most productive ways of their designation are derivation and compounding; it explains a large number of derivative words in Slavic languages, compound and complex compound words in Germanic languages. In derivatives, the basic motivational feature is expressed by means of a root morpheme or a suffix (if it is the diminutive suffix serving to the designation of the size). In sets of several words, a feature may be an adjective.

In this article I present the results of complex analysis of 83 MPs' names; total number of examples in eight languages is 443. As far as I have a vast corpus of examples, I use definite principle of their presentation. While processing different plants' names I differentiate between botanical names (which I give in Latin), literary names, usually included into dictionaries and familiar to many people, like *Forget-me-not* or *Lily-of the-valley* and common (folk) names. To show the difference between them I mark all the examples, which are in italics, with "lit." for literary names; the rest of examples are common ones, which prevail. Each example is accompanied by its translation into English in angle brackets and by the scientific botanical name of the plant in round brackets, e.g. Czech lit. *Hořec žlutý* /yellow mountain dweller/ – Yellow gentian (*Gentiana lutea* L.); German *Bärenkraut* /bear's grass/ – Common mullein (*Verbascum thapsus* L.). Translation may also include full or abridged comments: *contorted*, *dial.* – dialectical, *arch.* – archaic, etc. The sequence of languages is the following one: Germanic first (German, Dutch, English), Slavic next (Russian, Ukrainian, Polish, Czech, Slovak). In some languages a plant's name is written in capital letters, in others – in small. Taking into account strict rules of the structure of the botanical term, which is always double with the first element denoting the generic name in a capital letter and a specific synonym coming after it in a small letter, I write in all the languages under consideration the first element the plant's name in a capital letter. It gives opportunity to differentiate, especially in the examples formed metaphorically and metonymically, between a word denoting any class of thing and between MP's name, compare: Russian *майка* /T-shirt/ and *Майка* /May + suff., fem. – a plant which blossoms in May – Dandelion/.

### 5. *Direct designation*

Let us start with the direct designation at which the plant receives the name distinguishing it from other plants. We will consider examples with lexical bases naming a plant or its part or formal base represented in the derivative by a corresponding suffix.

At first, I will identify the features of direct designation and then observe how these features are refracted in indirect designation by means of a metaphor and metonymy.

The onomasiological features characterizing MP form the following group: features of outlook, temporal, locative, evaluative, emotive-expressive, features warning about dangerous properties of a plant and features of alienable/inalienable possession, which can enter varied groups of features. Now I want to describe in details not all the features, because of the paper limit, but features of outlook, temporal ones and locatives and illustrate them with some examples. To explain the name of a MP properly in some cases it is necessary to use cultural specific knowledge.

### 5.1. Features of Outlook

**Features of outlook** are extraordinary important for the identification of a MP; they include peculiarities of a plant's **structure, form, colour, and size**.

**Plant's structure.** The unusual structure of a plant may find its reflection in its name. Ripe seeds of the Yellow balsam or Touch-me-not (*Impatiens noli-tangere* L.) usually shoot from a pod at the contact. It finds reflection in Polish literary name *Niecirpek* and common *Nietykatek* /word for word smth. what is impossible to touch/. Dandelion (*Taraxacum officinale* Wigg.) has specific structure of its inflorescence. In Russian we find such examples, as *Клочки* /floccules/, *Летучки* /smth that flies/, *Оду́й плешь* /blow round bald patch/, which are connected with the peculiarities of the Dandelion's flowers to lose its seeds; corresponding examples in Ukrainian – *Падиволос* fall down + hair/, *Плішівець* /bald + suff./.. This flower also has hollow stem – *Полая трава*. Examples of **form** resembling different artefacts, mainly have metaphoric character; we will consider them later. However, in MPs' names the connection with geometrical forms, such, as round, oval, square, rectangular, triangular is also traced.

Allan relates to the category of form such features as long, flat and round and introduces the concept of one-dimensionality and two-regularity. In his opinion, one-dimensionality is presented in semantics of the English word *long*, two-regularity – in semantics of words *flat* and *round* (Allan, 1977, 300).

Major part of my examples belongs to the folk layer of the lexicon. Possibly, for this reason in this language material I have single instances of phytonyms, containing the adjectives naming abstract geometrical forms: Russian *Пушица круглая* /smth. fluffy and round/ – Dandelion (*Taraxacum officinale* Wigg.); Ukrainian *Вербозіль круглолистий* /a plant with round leaves/ – Creeping Jenny or Moneywort (*Lysimachia nummularia* L.); Polish *Kwadratki* /square + suffix/ – European spindle-tree (*Euonymus europaea* L.); Slovak *Sliez okruhlolistý* /a plant with round leaves/ – Common mallow (*Malva sylvestris* L.). Obtained data show that in the national consciousness there is no concept of an oval or an ellipse in the description of the plants. Geometrical forms are substituted by "an egg", "navel", "circle", etc., which will be analyzed below.

One of meaningful features of a plant is its **colour**. Together with size and other features it enters the core semantic categories, which are extraordinary important for the person in one's cognitive activity. This feature of outlook belongs to frequent one and in German (literary and common names), Russian (common names), Ukrainian (literary and common names), and Czech (literary names) it is presented most brightly, but in a different way (Panasenko, 2010, 98). It may simply identify the colour of flowers: Dutch *Goudsbloem* /golden flower/, *Oranjobloem* /orange flower/ – Pot marigold (*Calendula officinalis* L.), Slovak *Biely sliez* /white/ – Common marshmallow (*Althaea officinalis* L.) or the number of colours: Ukrainian *Фіалка трибарвна* – Wild pansy (*Viola tricolour* L.). With the help of colour it is shown the difference between plants which have something in common, e.g.: Lavender usually has specific blue colour, but in Russian phytonym *Желтая лаванда* /yellow lavender/ with the help of yellow colour another plant is named – Dwarf everlasting (*Helichrysum arenarium* (L.) Moench.).

Describing different modi of perception Ruzin names colour as one of most "standard" modi as it is difficult to define colour, not having samples (Ruzin, 1994, 81). As standards he suggests to take colour of stones and minerals – emerald, amber; plants – citric, lilac; metals – copper, silver; animals – mouse, tiger, as well as a number of various nature facts – ashy, smoky.

As examples here I want to mention such standards as **metals** (gold): German *Holdenrose* /contorted golden/ – Water elder (*Viburnum opulus* L.); English *Guild tree* /contorted gilded/ – European barberry (*Berberis vulgaris* L.); Russian *Малиновые листики* /raspberry leaves + dim. suff./ – Meadow cranesbill (*Geranium pratense* R. Knuth); **stones and minerals**: English lit. *Cornelian cherry* (*Cornus mas* L.) and Polish lit. *Kalina koralowa* /coral/ – Water elder (*Viburnum opulus* L.). In Russian example *Серебряник* /silver + suff./ – Greater celandine (*Chelidonium majus* L.) – two features are united: because of the leaves' structure in the morning the plant is covered with the dew and becomes silvery.

As Frumkina marks, there is also such a way of colour terms formation as their interpretation through other well known notions (Frumkina, 1984, 17), e.g.: German *Strohblume* /straw flower/, *Dotterblume* (yolk) – Dandelion (*Taraxacum officinale* Wigg.), *Blutshierling* (blood) – Poison hemlock (*Conium maculatum* L.), *Flammenauge* /fiery eye/ – Pheasant's eye (*Adonis vernalis* L.); Russian *Пшеница* /millet cereal/ – Dandelion (*Taraxacum officinale* Wigg.); Polish *Ślomiasty kwiat* /straw flower/ – Dwarf everlasting (*Helichrysum arenarium* (L.) Moench).

The **size** of a plant in my language material is verbalized by different means: with the help of appropriating adjectives, the diminutive suffixes, having affectionate-diminutive value, and augmentative suffixes, which can often have pejorative value, and lexically.

As Wierzbicka specifies, in Polish the size is an obligatory morphological category: it is impossible to speak about "bottle" in general. There is *butelka*, having "a normal size", *buteleczka* – the small size (from perfume, medicine) and *butla* – a bottle of the big size, for example from champagne (Wierzbicka, 1997, 193).

The examples of lexical means of identifying the size are not numerous: German *Kleine Gliedkraut* /small grass which has chains/ – Common yarrow (*Achillea millefolium* L.), *Kleine Brunelle* – Common self-heal (*Prunella vulgaris* L.); Dutch *Groothoefblad* – Greater burdock (*Arctium lappa* L.), *Kleine kamille* – Wild chamomile (*Matricaria recutita* L.), *Klein violtje* – Heartsease (*Viola tricolor* L.); Russian *Мелкая трава* – Common yarrow (*Achillea millefolium* L.); Ukrainian lit. *Чистотіл великий* – Greater celandine (*Chelidonium majus* L.), Polish lit. *Dziewanne wielka* – Common mullein (*Verbascum thapsus* L.); Slovak lit. *Zemežlč menšia* – Common centaury (*Centaurium erythraea* Rafn.).

Speaking about the plant's size, it is worth mentioning that it is being conceptualized taking into account the anthropocentricity, within the size of a human body. If it is an apple – it should be located in a hand, a cherry – it is possible to put it as a whole in a mouth (Mostovaya, 1985, 53). In such a context becomes clear the size of Blackcurrant berries in Russian – *Алданский виноград* /Aldansky grapes/.

Examples with diminutive suffixes identifying small size of the plant itself or its part are numerous in German and all the five Slavic languages under consideration: German *Pfaffenröhrlein* /priest's tubules/ – Dandelion (*Taraxacum officinale* Wigg.); Russian *Ноготок* (nail + dim. suff./ – Pheasant's eye (*Adonis vernalis* L.); Polish lit. *Koszyczko* /bast basket + dim. suff./ – Vervain (*Verbena officinalis* L.).

An interesting feature of phytonyms is the identification of not only the size of a plant, but of its part. E.g.: English lit. *Small-seeded lentil* (*Lens culinaris* Medik.); Polish lit. *Dziewanne wielkokwiatowa* /with large flowers/ – Common mullein (*Verbascum thapsus* L.).

Czech phytonym *Hlavaček* – Pheasant's eye (*Adonis vernalis* L.) requires special explanation. *Hlavač* – means a person or a creature having a large head (compare Russian *носач* – a person or an animal with a big nose). At the same time in this phytonym we have a diminutive suffix. In that case, MP's name can be interpreted as follows: a small (low) plant having a large glome.

I connect the size with space while Allan considers that it is often combined with a category of the form and even with a category of substance (Allan, 1977, 302). I have managed to find only a few such examples – a *tear* and a *drop*: English *Vervain Juno's tears* – Vervain (*Verbena officinalis* L.) and English lit. *Snowdrop* (*Galanthus nivalis* L.).

## 5.2. Temporal Features

**Temporal features** include different aspects: time, duration of flowering and collecting plants and their parts. The feature of time of flowering is not frequent. As a rule, literary names contain the information about a season, whereas common names specify month of flowering or gathering of a plant, time of day, e.g.: English *Summer pheasant's eye*, Polish lit. *Mitek wiosenny*, Russian lit. *Горюцвет весенний* – Pheasant's eye (*Adonis vernalis* L.); Ukrainian lit. *Пізньюцвіт осінній* – Common autumn crocus (*Colchicum autumnale* L.).

Are worthy of mentioning examples in Slavic languages in which the feature of time of flowering can be found in derivatives: Russian *Одномесечник* /one month + suffix/ – Pheasant's eye (*Adonis vernalis* L.), *Веснуха* /spring + derogatory suffix/ – Wood anemone (*Anemone nemorosa* L.); Ukrainian *Осітник* /autumn + suffix/ – Common autumn crocus (*Colchicum autumnale* L.), *Майка, Маївниця* /May + suffix, fem./ – Dandelion (*Taraxacum officinale* Wigg.), *Літняк* /summer + suff./ – Oak (*Quercus robur* L.); Czech *Majíček* /May + dimin. suffix, masc./ – Dandelion (*Taraxacum officinale* Wigg.); Slovak *Letnák, Letňák* – Oak (*Quercus robur* L.). Here the formal base is represented by a suffix and these examples can be interpreted in such a way: smth. (a plant) which blossoms or actively grows during one month, in autumn, in summer, in May.

It is necessary to note, that though in my language material all the seasons are presented, the examples, specifying warm period, connected with flowering of a plant or preparation of medicinal raw material, certainly, are of more frequency.

Among phytonyms it is possible to mark out a number of examples in which the temporal feature indicates that some plants blossom out of season, when other plants have rest. It maybe both time of day and a season: Russian *Зимовик* /winter + suffix/ – Common autumn crocus (*Colchicum autumnale* L.).

## 5.3. Locatives

The designation of the place of the MP's growth helps with its gathering; therefore, the given category is very important. It is possible to single out groups of elements designating localization of plants, adhered to a lay of land, geographical regions, parts of the world and continents and some others. More often, the seat of growth is designated by means of adjectives-locatives.

A neatly designated plant of a small size is easier to find in a specific lay of land: in mountains, at water, in a meadow, in a wood, etc. These locatives also reflect some national-cultural traditions: the use of plants as a green hedge (English), availability on a personal plot of a garden (German, Ukrainian, Slovak), a kitchen garden (Ukrainian), use of plants with decorative objectives for an ornament of walls (Polish), graves (Russian) and so forth.

Thus, all the locatives can be sorted in such a way, those, which denote:

### 1. parts of the world and continents

German *Ostlerkerze* /ostler – a resident of East-European country + candle/ – Common mullein (*Verbascum thapsus* L.); English *American barberry* – European barberry (*Berberis vulgaris* L.), *European hazel* – Common hazel (*Coryllus avellana* L.); Russian lit. *Бережклет европейский*, Czech lit. *Bršlen európsky* – European spindle-tree (*Euonymus europeae* L.); Slovak *Kopitník európsky* – European wild ginger (*Asarum europaeum* L.);

### 2. connected with names of states and nationalities

German *Schweizer Enzian* /Swiss gentian/ – Great yellow gentian (*Gentiana lutea* L.); English *Turkey grass* – Vervain (*Verbena officinalis* L.); Ukrainian *Костення татарове* /Tatar bone + suff./ – Sweet flag (*Acorus calamus* L.); Polish *Rozmarin czeski* /Czech rosemary/ – Marsh Labrador tea (*Ledum palustre* L.); Czech *Kručinka německá* /German buckthorn/ – Dyer's greenweed (*Genista tinctoria* L.); Slovak *Tatarský koreň* /Tatar root/ – Sweet flag (*Acorus calamus* L.), *Židovská čerešňa, Židovské vyšně* /Jewish cherry/ – Bladder cherry (*Physalis alkekengi* L.);

### 3.geographic regions and cities

German *Spanischer Flieder* /Spanish lilac/ – Lilac (*Syringa vulgaris* L.), *Finnische Beere* /Finnish berry/ – Sea-buckthorn (*Hippophae rhamnoides* L.); Dutch *Tabak der Vogezen* (tobacco from Vosges – the Vosges are a range of low mountains in eastern France, near its border with western Germany where the plant grows and where it was used instead of tobacco), *Alpische Goudbloem* /Alpine golden flower/ – Mountain arnica (*Arnica montana* L.), *Karpatisch klokje* – Carpathian harebell (*Campanula carpatica* Jacq.); English lit. *Danewort*, *Dane weed* (*Sambucus ebulus* L.); lit. *Dutch myrtle*, lit. *Scotch heather* – Common heather (*Calluna vulgaris* L. (Hull.); Russian *Русский цикорий* /Russian chicory/ – Одуванчик лекарственный (*Taraxacum officinale* Wigg.); Czech *Moravka* /smth. which grows in Morava – a part of Czech Republic/ – Mountain arnica (*Arnica montana* L.); Slovak *Králík dalmatinský* /Dalmatian king + dim. suff./ – Feverfew (*Chrysanthemum parthenium* L.);

### 4.growing next to water

Russian lit. *Багульник болотный* /marsh/ – Labrador tea (*Ledum palustre* L.); Ukrainian lit. *Перець водяний* /water/, Polish lit. *Rdest wodny* /water/ – Water-pepper (*Polygonum hydropiper* L.); Slovak *Záružlie močiarné* /marsh/ – Marsh marigold (*Caltha palustris* L.), *Morské vyšně* /sea cherries/ – Bladder cherry (*Physalis alkekengi* L.);

### 5.growing in the forest

German lit. *Wald sauerklee* /wood sour clover/, Russian *Лесная травка* /forest grass + dim. suff./ – Woodsorrel (*Oxalis acetosella* L.); Dutch *Boskruid* /forest grass/ – Mountain arnica (*Arnica montana* L.); Russian *Боровая трава* /pine forest grass/ – Dwarf everlasting (*Helichrysum arenarium* (L.) Moench.), lit. *Орех лесной* /forest hazel/ – Common hazel (*Corylus avellana* L.); Ukrainian *Жовтець лісовий* /forest yellow + suff./ – Creeping Jenny (*Lysimachia nummularia* L.); Polish *Knotnica leśna* – Common mullein (*Verbascum thapsus* L.);

### 6. growing in the open space

Russian lit. *Шалфей полевой* /field sage/, lit. *Бессмертник песчаный* /sand dwarf everlasting/ – Dwarf everlasting (*Helichrysum arenarium* (L.) Moench.), *Терновник песочный* /sand thorn + suff./ – Sea-buckthorn (*Hippophae rhamnoides* L.); Ukrainian *Фіалка полева* – Wild pansy (*Viola tricolour* L.); Polish lit. *Powój polny* – Field bindweed (*Convolvulus arvensis* L.); Czech *Polní maceška* /field stepmother + suff./ – Wild pansy (*Viola tricolour* L.); Slovak *Lalia údolná* – Lily-of-the-valley (*Convallaria majalis* L.);

### 7.designating specific location

Dutch *Hoflook* /yard + garlic/, *Tuinlook* /garden + garlic/ – Garlic (*Allium sativum* L.); Russian *Могильная трава* /grave grass/ – Periwinkle (*Vinca major* L.); Slovak *Podzemní prestupník* /underground step over + suff./ – White bryony (*Bryonia alba* L.); *Záhradná černobyľa* /garden black herb/ – Absinthe wormwood (*Artemisia absinthium* L.);

### 8. growing in the mountains

Polish *Kupalnik górski* /mountain bathe + suff./, *Arnika góraska* – Mountain arnica (*Arnica montana* L.); Slovak *Ďatelina skalná* /rocky clover/, *Lucernina horová* – Lemon balm (*Melissa officinalis* L.);

### 9. stretching on the ground

Slovak *Zemská tekvica* /ground pumpkin/ – White bryony (*Bryonia alba* L.), *Zemská para* – Earth smoke (*Fumaria officinalis* L.).

In most of these examples the base is a plant itself or its part. Special notice deserves a group of locatives which are derivatives; examples are presented only by Slavic languages: Russian *Канаборник*, *Канабреник* /a plant which grows in a specific kind of forest/ – Labrador tea (*Ledum palustre* L.); Ukrainian *Борівка*, Polish *Borowina* /a plant which grows in a pine forest/ – Bilberry (*Vaccinium myrtillus* L.); Ukrainian *Боровиця* /a plant which grows in a pine forest/ – Common juniper (*Juniperus communis* L.); Czech *Hořec* /smth. which grows in the mountains/ someone who lives in the mountains/ – Yellow gentian (*Gentiana lutea* L.); Slovak *Dubravnica*, *Dubravník* /a plant which grows in an oak forest/ – Lemon balm (*Melissa officinalis* L.), *Zemlička* /ground + dimin. suf./ – Dandelion (*Taraxacum officinale* Wigg.).

In Russian and Ukrainian we come across the examples of prefixal-suffixal words: Russian *Подснежник* /a plant growing under the snow/, *Подъяворник* /a plant growing under the sycamore/ – Pheasant's eye (*Adonis vernalis* L.), *Подтынник* /a plant growing under the specific fence/ – Common yarrow (*Achillea millefolium* L.),

*Придорожник* /a plant growing near the road/ – Meadow cranesbill (*Geranium pratense* R. Knuth); *Подорожник* /a plant growing along the road/ – Dandelion (*Taraxacum officinale* Wigg.); Ukrainian *Підорешник* /a plant growing under the nut tree/ – Crane's-bill (*Geranium pratense* R. Knuth) and complex compound words: Ukrainian *Стародубка* /a plant growing under the old oak-tree/, *Чорногірка* /a plant growing on hillock in thawed patches free from snow/ – Pheasant's eye (*Adonis vernalis* L.).

It is very interesting to trace how one and the same plant – Spiny cocklebur (*Xanthium spinosum* L.) – in several languages is used for expressing critical or jocular attitude to people of different nations. Russians call it *Армянский бурьян* /Armenian weeds/, Ukrainians *Реніу польський* /Polish bur/, Germans – *Moskowitzendorn* /Muscovite's cocklebur/, English people – *Spanish-thistle*, Americans – *Canada cocklebur*.

## 6. Indirect designation

As I have already mentioned plant's properties are encoded not only in its onomasiological features in the structure of the tertiary model, but in bases as well. Speaking about indirect designation I must state that in my language material it is realized in different ways; first of all, with the help of metaphor and metonymy. It is also possible to single out features of alienable/inalienable possession, closely connected with metaphor; words with connotative meaning, which can be considered as epithets; and metaphoric words containing additional historical and cultural specific information, which needs some interpretation and is not clear to everybody.

The number of lexical bases not connected with the plant varies from 10 in literary names up to 24 in common names, however in each language they are presented differently. It is necessary to mention such frequent bases, as artefacts (weapons, tools, house utensils, clothes and its details and so forth), people (queen, soldier, mother and so forth) animals (wild, domestic, birds, insects, mythical creatures and so forth), substances (blood, salt, acid and so forth) and many others. These bases show the reference of the designated object not only to a plant or its part, but to something else. It means that the designation of a plant was done by comparison with known concepts and objects. It gives us the basis to consider another, not less important way of designation – metaphorization, that is "associative reflection of a motivation feature by means of already existing word" (Gusakova, 1990, 7-8).

### 6.1. Metaphor

Thus, metaphor as "one of the most productive means of secondary designation in creation the linguistic world view" (Teliya 1988, 175) is very close in its function to word-formation, however it, being means of indirect designation, does it in a veiled form.

Now let us come back to the classification of different features of a MP and give examples of indirect designation, into which not only features, but also bases are involved.

Identifying metaphorization is connected with **features of outlook**. We will start with **peculiarities of a plant's structure**. At some plants seeds are transferred by the wind on considerable distances. Such a property of the Dandelion (*Taraxacum officinale* Wigg.) can be found in the Polish phytonym *Podróżnik*, i.e. a traveller. This example includes a formal base (a suffix). If in the derivatives the suffix is diminutive, it serves as the onomasiological feature of a small size or emotive-expressive one, which attributed by the predicate to the lexical base. Lexical bases are: **a person** German *Waldmeister* /forest master/ – Sweet woodruff (*Asperula odorata* L.); Russian *Бабка* /derog. granny + suff./, *Дідки* /old men + suff./, *Жидик* + /Jew + dim. suff./, *Козачки* /Cossack + dim. suff./, *Солдатик* /soldier + dim. suff./; **an animal** Russian *Баранчики* /ram + dim. suff./; **a building, construction** Russian *Теремок* /tower + dim. suff./ – Dandelion (*Taraxacum officinale* Wigg.); **an insect** Ukrainian *Павучок* /spider + dim. suff./ – Dandelion (*Taraxacum officinale* Wigg.); **artefact** Dutch *Rode zonnenhoed* /red sun umbrella/ – Eastern purple coneflower (*Echinacea purpurea* (L.) Moench.), *Glazen muiltje* – (crystal shoes + dim. suff.) – Heartsease (*Viola tricolor* L.); Czech *Svíčky* /candles + dim. suff./ – Dandelion (*Taraxacum officinale* Wigg.); **a part of human body** Slovak *Pleška* /bald patch + dim. suff./ – Dandelion (*Taraxacum officinale* Wigg.).

These examples combine peculiarities of the plant's structure and the feature of form. The dandelion flower usually closes inflorescence for night, which reminds specific dress or headdress of a soldier; the flown inflorescence looks like ram's shaved skin or like a bald patch. They are the examples which metaphorically describe such a feature as **form**.

The analysis of a category of the form in MPs' names allows to mark a number of its central and minor members. So, 22 elements of a plant can be divided into 5 groups: flower, fruit, stalk, a leaf /leaves, and others. Parts of a MP having specific form which attract the attention of a person, are presented in Table 1.

Let us illustrate it with some examples. **Inflorescence**: Russian *Колпачки* /caps + dim. suff./ – Aconite monkshood (*Aconitum napellus* L.); Ukrainian *Сокирки* /axes + dim. suff./; Polish *Mniszek* /monk + dim. suff./ – Aconite monkshood (*Aconitum napellus* L.); **a seed box**: Ukrainian *Мисочки* /bowls + dim. suff./, *Сердечник* – /heart + suff./ – Common shepherd's purse (*Capsella bursa pastoris* (L.) Medik.); **leaves' arrangement**: Czech *Křížek* /tiny cross/ – Common St. Johnswort (*Hypericum perforatum* L.); **petal's shape**: Slovak *Mesiačok* /tiny crescent/, *Nechtík* /nail + dim. suff./ – Pot marigold (*Calendula officinalis* L.). As far as category of form is mainly presented through the features of alienable/inalienable possession other examples will be given below.

Another plant, which has received many metaphoric names because of its unusual structure is Autumn crocus (*Colchicum autumnale* L.), a part of the bulb of which is on the surface of the ground and from time to time it loses a part of its peel. English common name *Naked ladies* reflects aristocratic customs to wear low cut dress. German common name *Nackte Hure* /naked whore/ not only indicates the feature of a plant's structure, but also contains strong negative component. Other English synonyms *Naked boy*, *Son-before-the-father* result from its unusual growth cycle where the flower appears in the autumn with no leaves around them and the leaves appear in the spring and die off in the summer (Robertson, 2008-11).

It is important to mention that in MP names metaphorization can occur on the basis of set of different features, e.g.: Russian *Девичьи пупки* and Ukrainian *Дівочі пупки* /maiden's navels/ – **form** (round) + **the size** (small); Russian *Сернак* /scythe + dim. suff./ – **form** of the young sprout (bent) + **the size** (small) – Common yarrow (*Achillea millefolium* L.).

## 6.2. Metonymy

Detailed analysis of the MP names testifies to the fact that the number of examples with metonymy is low. Metonymy reveals the following important information about the MP in a condensed way:

a) **plant's location** – German *Hede*, *Haid* /contorted barren/ – Common heather (*Calluna vulgaris* (L.) Hull.); English *Dogwood* European spindle-tree (*Euonymus europaea* L.), *Greenwood* /together with the feature of colour/ – Dyer's broom (*Genista tinctoria* L.); Russian *Бор* /pine forest/, *Канабра* (*dial.* grove) – Common heather (*Calluna vulgaris* L. (Hull.), *Полевой гай* /field small grove/, *Желтый гай* /yellow small grove/ – Common St. Johnswort (*Hypericum perforatum* L.), *Лесной гай* /forest small grove/ – Sweet woodruff (*Asperula odorata* L.), *Родина* /homeland/ – Wild pansy (*Viola tricolor* L.); Ukrainian *Піски* /sands/ – Sweet flag (*Acorus calamus* L.); Slovak *Zemlička* /ground + dim. suff./ – Dandelion (*Taraxacum officinale* Wigg.); b) **MP's part** – Russian *Ягодки*, Ukrainian *Ягідки* /berry + dim. suff./ – Mezereon (*Daphne mezereum* L.); c) **peculiarities of plant's structure** – German *Ungeduld* /impatience/ – Touch-me-not balsam (*Impatiens noli-tangere* L.); Russian *Пон* /an orthodox priest/ – (*Taraxacum officinale* Wigg.) – the structure of Dandelion's deflowered inflorescence looks like a specific cap which usually orthodox priests wear; d) **temporal features**. Metonymy is used to mark **the season** of the plant's blossoming: Czech *Joseňka*, *Jesienka* /autumn + dim. suff./ – Common autumn crocus (*Colchicum autumnale* L.), *Sasanka* /icicle/ – Windflower (*Anemone nemorosa* L.) – this flower usually appears in early spring during thaw; Russian *Мороз* /frost/ – winter is meant, because this plant, Common autumn crocus, often start blossoming with the first frost; **month** of the plant's blossoming: Russian *Маї* /May/ – Dandelion (*Taraxacum officinale* Wigg.).

## 6.3. Features of Alienable/Inalienable Possession

All the phytonyms containing features of alienable/inalienable possession are formed metaphorically and serve to specify different features. The first group includes such features of outlook, as **plant's structure**.

As I have already mentioned, Dandelion (*Taraxacum officinale* Wigg.) has the specific form of the inflorescence closed at night and of its partially or completely flown inflorescence; this feature has found the reflection in a number of examples.



The foundation for comparison are such lexical bases, as **artefacts (headdress)** (alienable possession) – Russian *Еврейская шапка* /the Jewish cap/; **parts of a body of animals and people** (inalienable possession) – English *Lion's tooth*; Russian *Львиный зуб* /the lion's tooth/, *Попова плешь* /orthodox priest's bald spot/; Czech *Kněžská pleš* /priest's bald spot/, *Lví zub* /lion's tooth/; **an agricultural platform** (alienable possession) – *Попово гуменце* /orthodox priest's threshing-floor + dim. suff./; **character's nature** (alienable possession) Ukrainian *Дівоча сталість* /maiden's constancy/, *Мужеська вірність* /male faithfulness/.

However, most of examples are connected with the **form** of the plant itself and its parts: **inflorescence** (inalienable possession) English lit. *Meadow crane's-bill* (*Geranium pratense* R. Knuth); Russian *Девичьи пупки* /maidens' navels/ – Common yarrow (*Achillea millefolium* L.); (alienable possession) Ukrainian *Удодів чобіт* /hoopoe's boot/ – Wild pansy (*Viola tricolor* L.); **deflowered inflorescence** (inalienable possession) Czech *Čápi nůsek* /stork's nose + dim. suff./ – Crane's-bill (*Geranium pratense* R. Knuth); **inflorescence with fuzz** (alienable/inalienable possession) Slovak *Kozá brádka* /goat's beard + dim. suff./ – Mountain arnica (*Arnica montana* L.); **berry** (alienable possession) Ukrainian *Вовчи серці* /wolf's ear-rings/ – Mezereon (*Daphne mezereum* L.); (inalienable possession) Polish lit. *Wronie oko* /crow's eye/ – Herb Paris (*Paris quadrifolia* L.), Slovak *Vlčie oko* /wolf's eye/ – Deadly nightshade (*Atropa bella-donna* L.); **a seed box** (alienable possession) Czech lit. *Zebráčká kabelka* /beggar's bag/ – Common shepherd's purse (*Capsella bursa pastoris* (L.) Medik.); **leaves** (inalienable possession) Russian *Адамово ребро* /Adam's rib/ – Greater celandine (*Chelidonium majus* L.), *Волчьи ушки* /wolf's ear + dim. suff./ – Common mullein (*Verbascum thapsus* L.), Slovak *Čertove rebro* /devil's rib/ – Common male fern (*Dryopteris filix-mas* (L.) Schott.); **MP as a whole** (alienable possession) Russian *Егорьево копье* /Yegoriy's spear/ – Common mullein (*Verbascum thapsus* L.); **young sprout** (inalienable possession) Slovak *Zlý jazýček* /baleful tongue + dim. suff./ – Common yarrow (*Achillea millefolium* L.).

As it comes from examples presented earlier, the feature of **size** in MPs' names is mainly realized directly. If it is a plant of a large size, like, say lit. *Common mullein* (*Verbascum thapsus* L.), or the plant which covers large territory while blossoming and has specific colour, like lit. *Corn poppy* or *Red poppy* (*Papaver rhoeas* L.), or this plant is a bush with specific colour and smell, like lit. *Lilac* (*Syringa vulgaris* L.) – there is no need in reflecting the size in its name. The feature of size is mainly connected with the part of the MP and size and, as I have already mentioned, is correlated with the size of a part of human body or a part of an animal. This size is familiar to everybody and it is easy to imagine the size of a plant it belongs to: Dutch *Egelkop* /head of a hedgehog/ – Eastern purple coneflower (*Echinacea purpurea* (L.) Moench.); Russian *Медвежья лапа* /bear's paw/ – Common mullein (*Verbascum thapsus* L.), Slovak *Kočíčí chvost* /pussy cat's tail/ – Common silverweed (*Potentilla anserina* L.), *Kocúrov chvost* /tom-cat's tail/ – Common bistort (*Bistorta major* S.F. Gray), *Volov chvost* /oxe's tail/ – Common mullein (*Verbascum thapsus* L.), *Jazyk vrabčí* /sparrow's tongue/ – Common knotgrass (*Polygonum aviculare* L.), *Psí jazyk* /dog's tongue/, *Baraní jazyk* /ram's tongue/ – Narrowleaf plantain (*Plantago lanceolata* L.). Difference in size is also displayed with the help of diminutive suffixes: Slovak *Myši chvost* (*chvostik*) /mouse's tail (tail + dim. suff.)/ – Common yarrow (*Achillea millefolium* L.). It is remarkable, that the size of a part of an animal's body is reflected in the names of not identical, but various plants. All these phytonyms are formed metaphorically.

Features of alienable possession may also denote time of the flowering season – "when swallows fly back": German *Schwalbenkraut*, English *Swallow's wort*, Ukrainian *Ластовична трава* /swallow's grass/, Polish *Jaskólcie ziele*, Czech *Vlastovičnik větší* – Greater celandine (*Chelidonium majus* L.).

#### 6.4. Examples with connotative meaning

A special group of phytonyms is formed with the help of metaphors, which can be considered as epithets, because these examples are based on shifting of the meaning of the word from one class of features to another. Thus we may speak about additional, connotative meaning of some elements of the MP's name. According to Chandler (1998), connotative meanings "are determined by the codes to which the interpreter has access", that is, connotation is cultural specific. In my language material connotative meanings have features of colour, locatives and temporal ones.

In MPs' names it is possible to indicate so-called "true" (obvious and hidden) and "false" **colours**. They are connected with direct designation and the examples have been presented earlier.

True colours name the part of a plant which catches our sight first of all; it may be a flower, berries, leaves, etc. I name the latent colours those, which can be hidden from a look of the person (a root, juice and so forth); whereas "false" are those which have additional value and belong to the group of examples formed metaphorically. In this case secondary designation leads us to the category of evaluation, which in our language material makes 3 subgroups: a) negative assessment of a plant's properties (the most numerous group); b) high quality, beauty; and c) mediocrity, ordinariness.

Speaking about colours having connotative meaning we must always keep in mind **cultural-historical context**. In many European cultures, especially in Slavic one, the black colour symbolizes grief, misfortune, mourning, death (compare German *schwarze Gedanke* /black thoughts/, English *black treachery*, Russian *черные дни, черная неблагодарность*, etc.). Among wide range of MPs there are those, which are extremely poisonous; even physical contact with them is very dangerous. Thus, the plant's name must have warning about its dangerous properties in its name. In some cases, black colour is used, though it is not connected with real colours. This phenomenon is reflected in all the languages in my database (literary names): German *Schwarzes Bilsenkraut*, English *Black henbane*, Russian *Белена черная*, Ukrainian *Німиця чорна, Блекота чорна*, Polish *Lulek czarny*, Czech *Blen černý* – Black henbane (*Hyoscyamus niger* L.), Slovak *Lulok čierný* – Belladonna (*Atropa belladonna* L.).

If a black colour as a symbol of a negative assessment is a characteristic feature for many Indo-European languages, red and gold serve like a positive assessment and admiration in some Slavic languages. In the old Slavic language *красный* /red/ meant "beautiful, nice". The heart of Moscow, *Красная площадь* (Red square) got its name, because *красное* (парадное) – nice (red) main entrance, the porch of an imperial palace was there to the left. After the fire, there appeared many beautiful buildings, which were called "красные" (красивые) – (red). We can illustrate it only in Russian and Ukrainian, because in Czech and Slovak "*krasný*" still means "nice", "beautiful" nowadays. E.g., Common yarrow (*Achillea millefolium* L.) has white flowers, but in Russian it has such names, as *Девятихвост красная, Красноцветка, Подбела красная* /red/; Great yellow gentian (*Gentiana lutea* L.) is given its name for nice yellow flowers, but in Russian it is also called *Генциана красная* /red gentian/.

Another adjective, designating colour and specifying value of a plant, is "gold", e.g., Russian *Золотень* /gold + suff./ – Common yarrow (*Achillea millefolium* L.), Russian and Ukrainian *Золототысячник, Золототисячник* /gold + thousand + suff./ – Hedgehyssop (*Gratiola officinalis* L.) – a plant with white flowers; Slovak *Zlatá vrbka* /golden pussy willow + dim. suff./ – Common knotgrass (*Polygonum aviculare* L.) is a plant with white flowers. Very often different motivational features are combined in one MP name. Russian name of Pot marigolds (*Calendula officinalis* L.) *Золото Богородицы* /Virgin Mary's gold/ serves a good example. Here we may speak about the additional meaning which gold has as a precious metal (colour of the flowers coincides with the colour of gold) and this positive evaluation is intensified by the name of Virgin Mary.

The common name of a Sweet flag (*Acorus calamus* L.) in Ukrainian is *Сапи білий* /white sash/. In this case the adjective "white" serves to designate a high assessment of medicinal raw material, because a white root of a plant in a cut is of the highest quality (compare Russian *белая кость* – white bone).

The one of common names of the Shepherd's bag in Russian is *Серуки* /grey + dim. suff., Pl./; it is connected with psychology of colour sensation. Berlin and Kay (1969, 2) name grey colour in the scale the eleventh, i.e., the last in the list of basic colour terms. To explain the name *Серуки*, it is necessary to find different meanings of this adjective in Russian: *grey* – mediocre, *the grey person* – limited, uneducated. If to assume, that formal base, expressed by a suffix *-ук* serves to designate an object, the feature will show, that this object (MP) has no remarkable properties and is not seen among other, brighter plants. The same example in Slovak: *Šedivé zeli* /grey/, *Šedivka zelená* /green grey + suff./ – Common horehound (*Marrubium vulgare* L.).

**Temporal features** are also mainly found in the examples with direct designation, but there are some interesting cases of secondary designation connected with natural phenomena. The plant may come into flower "when the wind blows": English *Grove windflower*, Russian lit. *Ветреница дубравная*; "when the snow still lies in the field": Russian *Подснежник*; "when swallows fly back": нем. *Schwalbenkraut*, англ. *Swallow-wort, Ластовичник* /swallow + suff./; "when the cuckoo starts to cuckoo": German *Kukusblume*, Slovak *Kukučina* /cuckoo + suff./ – White bryony (*Bryonia alba* L.); "when the stork comes back": German *Storchblume*; "when cats' mating season comes": German *Katzenblume*; "when Easter comes": *Osterblume*.

All these examples (except Slovak *Kukučina*) characterize only one early spring flower – Wood anemone (*Anemone nemorosa* L.). Among phytonyms it is possible to single out a number of examples in which the feature of flowering out of season is traced. It concerns plants, which blossom when other plants have a rest. It may be either time of day or a season: German *Wachende Jungfrau* /not sleeping, wakeful young woman/; Russian *Зимовник*, Ukrainian *Зимівник* /someone who spends the winter in a specific area, e.g., polar station/ – Common autumn crocus (*Colchicum autumnale* L.).

I have described in details locatives which are present in a phytonym's structure, because it is very important to know where the plant grows. But MP location may also be connected with an area of dwelling of this or that animal. So, it is generally known, that the crane more likely can be found on a bog, rather than in desert or in mountains. Thus, in Russian common names of the Cranberry (*Oxycoccus palustris* L.) *Журавлина*, *Журавлиха*, etc. it is possible to single out the suffix as the formal base, and a feature will be the habitat of a crane – i.e., a bog where the cranberry usually grows. A similar Russian example is *Лягушечник* /frog + suff./, *Лягушечья трава* /frog's grass/ – Water-pepper (*Polygonum hydropiper* L.) growing in the place where frogs are found, i.e. near water.

### 6.5. Examples with cultural specific information

The last group of phytonyms has also resulted from the process of metaphorization, but in some cases it is difficult to interpret plant's name, because it contains cultural specific information. E.g., Slovak name of the Dandelion (*Taraxacum officinale* Wigg.) *Čakanka* /a waiting female/ according to the legend means the bewitched girl who expects the groom from war on the road. Two more Russian names of Dandelion: *Попова скуфья* refers to a specific headdress of an orthodox priest, which is known to people where orthodox Christianity is spread; *Москалик* /outdated derogative nickname of Russian soldiers in Ukraine and Byelorussia + dim. suff./, *Москаль* – the word *москаль* /moskal'/ belongs to historicisms and nowadays it has a playful derogative meaning, but in the 18-19<sup>th</sup> c. *москали* /moskals/ had a specific dress and especially specific headdress, which reminds close for night dandelion's inflorescence. Czech name *Kněžské čepičky* /priest's small caps/ – European spindle-tree (*Euonymus europaea* L.) is better understood by people who regularly see a catholic priest or Pope with his specific cap on.

This cultural specific information gives additional data to the plant. If heroes of myths, names of saints, characters of national folklore are mentioned it is very important, who exactly this character is, because it may be either positive or negative (like a wolf in Slavic folklore). The following German examples are connected with Greek and Roman mythology: *Venusaugenbraunnen* /brown spots in Venus's eyes/, *Weißes Achillenkraut* /the white grass of Achilles/ – Common yarrow (*Achillea millefolium* L.).

This group has many examples in all Germanic and Slavic languages under consideration. Some of phytonyms contain the name of God, Christ, Virgin Mary, names of saints, Christian holidays, etc.: Dutch *Sint Luciaanskruid* – Mountain arnica (*Arnica montana* L.), *Mariabloem* – Pot marigold (*Calendula officinalis* L.), *Blauw engeltje* /blue angel/ – блакитний ангел – Wild pansy (*Viola tricolor* L.), *Paaskaars* /God's candle/ – Common mullein (*Verbascum thapsus* L.); Russian *Божий дар*, *Божья благодать*, *Божья помощь* /God's gift, assistance/ – Hedge hyssop (*Gratiola officinalis* L.); Ukrainian *Руки Христові* /Christ's hands/ – Fragrant orchid (*Gymnadenia conopsea* (L.) R. Br.); Polish *Kwiat Sw. Trojcy*, Czech *Trojice*, *Trojčké bylina* /Trinity flower, herb/ – Wild pansy (*Viola tricolor* L.).

Some phytonyms have cultural-historical connotation: Dutch *Duitse kamille* – German chamomile (*Matricaria chamomilla* L.) (it is a dialectic name of the plant which grows on border with Germany); *Ridderblad* /knight's grass/ – Common vervain (*Verbena officinalis* L.), *Guldenbloem* /gulden + flower/ – Pot marigold (*Calendula officinalis* L.). Round shape of leaves or flowers very often was the ground for giving the MP the name connected with money. It is interesting to trace how in different languages the same plant – English lit. Creeping Jenny (*Lysimachia nummularia* L.) – is being named. The word denoting money is cultural specific: German *Pfenigkraut*; *Gröschelkraut*; English lit. *Herb twopence* and *Twopenny grass*; Russian *Полушечная трава*; *Копеечник*. In all these examples, a small coin typical of this or that culture is presented in a phytonym's name.

Here and above I just mention the name of the plant and give brief comment. In fact, it is a long process of decoding plants' name with cultural specific connotation. I will present below four examples in which interesting information is being hidden.

German *Judenhütlein* /Jew's small hats/ – Yellow balsam, Touch-me-not (*Impatiens noli-tangere* L.). It is a metaphoric way of accentuating specific form of the flowers. The flowers resemble (yellow) Jewish cap, obligatory for the Jews in the middle Ages. Though the colour is not mentioned in the plant's name, its flowers are yellow.

German *Druidenbeere* /Druids' berries/ – Bilberry (*Vaccinium myrtillus* L.). This name tells us that druids used bilberry in their ritual magic actions. The name of this plant came to the German language at the time of the 5-7<sup>th</sup> centuries AD when Britain was conquered by German tribes of Anglo-Saxons and Jutes. The druids drew attention of German and had left a trace in their language.

English *Jupiter's staff* (*Verbascum thapsus* L.). According to the Roman mythology, Jupiter is the supreme god of Romans, it operates all heavenly phenomena and first of all a thunderstorm and a lightning; his attributes were aegis, a scepter and a hammer. Speaking figuratively, Jupiter is the recognized head considerably towering over other gods, thus, this plant, first of all, immediately attracts one's attention by its big size and the unusual form, and also it is extremely effective at treatment of different diseases.

Slovak name of Common yarrow (*Achillea millefolium* L.) *Panny Márie kúpel'* /Virgin Mary's bath/ is connected with plant's widespread use in gynecology, obstetrics and pediatrics. Virgin Mary is the most esteemed saint among Christians in general and Catholics in particular. Her name specifies high efficiency of the plant use in non-traditional medicine.

Some interesting examples showing difference between direct and indirect designation are presented in Table 2.

## 7. Conclusion

Having analyzed Germanic and Slavic phytonymic lexicon from different point of view we may come to the following conclusions. MPs' names originate from direct and indirect designation, and there is obvious division between literary and common MP names. Literary names are mostly formed thanks to direct designation. There are few examples of metaphors in them. Common names resulted from either direct or indirect designation, but many of them have metaphoric background.

If we consider MP's name from onomasiological point of view, we may find in its structure onomasiological base and onomasiological feature. Thanks to primary designation a large group of onomasiological **features of outlook** is formed, which includes **peculiarities of a plant's structure, form, colour, and size**. In literary phytonyms feature of **colour** prevails over other features (German, Ukrainian and Czech), which is named directly with the help of corresponding adjectives or in derivatives. Another frequent feature is **location** (all the 8 languages). In phytonyms which are formed by direct designation main plant's features are reflected in onomasiological features, whereas in those which were formed by the indirect designation – in onomasiological bases.

Indirect designation is represented in phytonymic lexicon by metaphors and metonymies. Among metaphors it is possible to single out a group of features of possession, which unite many onomasiological features, but mainly the **form** (all the 8 languages). The form is presented by such onomasiological bases, as people and animals (and parts of their body), various artefacts (weapon, dress and its elements, kitchen utensils, instruments, etc.), nature objects, substance, feeling and many others. Another group is formed by metaphors with cultural-historical connotation, which need special interpretation (German, Russian, Ukrainian, Polish). And the third group is formed by features of colours which thank to their connotative meaning shift into the group of evaluative features and thus can be treated as epithets (Russian and Ukrainian).

A small group of phytonyms is formed with the help of metonymy. Traditionally metonymy works by the contiguity (association) between two concepts, e.g., between a person's feature and the person oneself, between clothes or object which the person wears, between the person and between the instrument of work and work itself or its results (Morokhovskiy et al., 1991, 169-170). However, given properties are unusual for my language material. In MP names metonymy is based on association on a contiguity between a plant and its part, place of its growth, time of its flowering, the illness which it treats, etc., that is, on the basis of features of outlook and evaluative features.

The basic conclusion, which results from my research, is that fact, that Germanic and Slavic MPs' names represent examples of direct and indirect designation. It is possible to consider that nominative value is directed on features of MP outlook and characteristics of its physical properties. In common phytonyms dominate metaphors in which intuitive concepts of the person about an arrangement of the universe, society, interconnection of the person and the nature find their reflection, actually the sum of knowledge which the person has.

### References

- Allan, K. (1977). Classifiers. *Language* 53, (2), p. 285-311.
- Berlin, B. & Kay, P. (1969). *Basic colour terms: Their universality and evolution*. Berkeley and Los Angeles: Un-ty of California Press.
- Chandler, D. (1998) *Semiotics for Beginners*. Retrieved at <http://users.aber.ac.uk/dgc/Documents/S4B/>
- Frumkina, R.M. (Фрумкина Р.М.). (1984). *Colour, sense, similarity. Aspects of psycholinguistic analysis*. Moscow: Nauka. (in Russian).
- Gusakova, Ye.I. (Гусакова Е.И.). (1990). Features of common plants' names designation in modern English. *Reports' abstracts of the conference "Semantics of language and speech units"*. Ufa: Bashkirsky State University, p. 7-8. (in Russian).
- Kubriakova, Ye.S. (Кубрякова Е.С.) (1986). *Nominative aspect of speech activity*. Moscow: Nauka. (in Russian).
- Kubriakova, Ye.S. (Кубрякова Е.С.) (1978). *Parts of speech in onomasiological interpretation*. Moscow: Nauka. (in Russian).
- Litvinova, M.M. (Літвінова М.М.) (2004). Comparative analysis of the structure of phraseological and lexical units denoting features of a person's character (based on German). Retrieved at [var/www/ksu/universitet/f10/publications/2004/articles](http://www.ksu.universitet/f10/publications/2004/articles) (in Ukrainian).
- Mostovaya, A.D. (Мостовая А.Д.) (1985). The experiment of comparison of scientific and "naïve" interpretation (based on definite vocabulary). *Linguistic and psycholinguistic structures*. Moscow: Institute of Linguistics, Academy of Sciences of USSR. p. 35-54. (in Russian).
- Morokhovskiy, A.N. et al. (Мороховский А.Н. и др.) (1991). *English stylistics*. Kiev: Vyšča shkola. (in Russian).
- Panasenko, N. (Панасенко Н.). (2010). *Phytonymic lexicon in the system of Romance, Germanic and Slavic languages (onomasiological and cognitive analysis)*: Cherkassy: Brama-Ukrayina. (in Russian).
- Robertson, J. (2008-11) Colchicum autumnale, autumn crocus, naked ladies. Retrieved at [http://www.thepoisonarden.co.uk/atoz/colchicum\\_autumnale.htm](http://www.thepoisonarden.co.uk/atoz/colchicum_autumnale.htm)
- Ruzin, I.G. (Рузин И.Г.) (1994). Cognitive strategies of designation: perception modi (vision, hearing, touch, smell, taste) and their expression in language. *Voprosy yazykoznanija*, 6, p. 79-100. (in Russian).
- Teliya, V.N. (Телия В.Н.) (1988). Metaphorization and its role in linguistic world view creation. *The role of human factor in language. Language and world view*. Moscow: Nauka. (in Russian).
- Teliya, V.N. (Телия В.Н.) (1990). Designation. *Encyclopedic linguistic dictionary*. Moscow: Sovetskaya Encyclopedia, p. 336-337. (in Russian).
- Wierzbicka, A. (Вежбицкая А.) (1997). The meaning of colour terms: semantics, culture and cognition. *Language, culture, and cognition*. Moscow: Russkiye slovari, p. 231-290. (in Russian).





**Table 1: Parts of the Medicinal Plant**

<b>Flower</b>	<b>Fruit</b>
Inflorescence, deflowered inflorescence, (deflowered) inflorescence (with fuzz), the flower closed for night, unfolded floral envelope with stamens, a bud, calyx lobe	Seed with prickles, a berry, collective fruit, a seed box, achene/ cypsela
<b>Stalk</b>	<b>Leaves</b>
Trunk, stalk with inflorescences, straight stalk with flat a flower	Root or radical leaves
<b>Others</b>	
MP as a whole, young sprout and root	

**Table 2: Difference Between Direct and Indirect Designation Display in MPs' Names**

Primary designation	Secondary designation
<b>Plant's structure</b>	
Russian <i>Полая трава</i> /fistular grass/ – Dandelion (Taraxacum officinale Wigg.) Slovak <i>Děravec</i> /smth. that has holes/ – Common St. Johnswort (Hypericum perforatum L.)	<b>Metaphor</b> Polish <i>Podróżnik</i> /traveller/ – Dandelion Ukrainian <i>Хлопців любов</i> /chaps' love/ – Dandelion
<b>Form</b>	
German <i>Ringelblume</i> /circle, ringlet + flower/ – Marigold (Calendula officinalis L.) Russian <i>Пушица круглая</i> /smth. fluffy and round/ – Dandelion Czech <i>Kvadraty</i> /square + suffix/ – European spindle-tree (Euonymus europaea L.)	<b>Metaphor</b> Czech <i>Radostka</i> /joy + dim. suff./ – Dwarf everlasting (Helichrysum arenarium (L.) Moench.) Dutch <i>Toorst</i> /torch/ – Common mullein (Verbascum thapsus L.) <b>Features of possessivity → Metaphor</b> Dutch <i>Egelkop</i> /hedgehog's head/ – Purple coneflower (Echinacea purpurea (L.) Moench.) English <i>Candlewick</i> – Common mullein Czech lit. <i>Zebráčká kabelka</i> /beggar's bag/ – Shepherd's-purse (Capsella bursa-pastoris (L.) Medik.)
<b>Colour</b>	
German <i>Weißdorn</i> /white thorn/ – Common hawthorn (Crataegus oxyacantha L.) Dutch <i>Witte blomme</i> – Common yarrow, <i>Stinkende gouwe</i> /stinking gold/ – Greater celandine (Chelidonium majus L.) English lit. <i>Blackcurrant</i> (Ribes nigrum L.)	<b>Connotative meaning</b> Ukrainian <i>Сап білий</i> /white sash/ – Sweet flag (Acorus calamus L.) – of the highest quality Polish <i>Lulek czarny</i> – Black henbane (Hyoscyamus niger L.) – a poisonous plant
<b>Size</b>	
English lit. <i>Greater celandine</i> Russian <i>Мелкая трава, Мелкая кашка</i> – Common yarrow	<b>Features of possessivity → Metaphor</b> Slovak <i>Myši chvostik</i> /mouse's tail + dim. suff./ – Common yarrow, <i>Volov chvost</i> /oxe's tail/ – Common mullein
<b>Temporal features</b>	
Polish <i>Milek wiosenny</i> – Pheasant's eye (Adonis vernalis L.)	<b>Metonymy</b> Czech <i>Sasanka</i> /icicle/ – Windflower (Anemone nemorosa L.)
<b>Locatives</b>	
German <i>Waldanemone</i> /forest/ – Windflower Dutch <i>Waterandoorn</i> – Wolfspout (Lycopus europaeus L.) Ukrainian <i>Жовтець лісовий</i> /forest yellow + suff./ – Creeping Jenny (Lysimachia nummularia L.)	a) <b>Connotative meaning</b> Russian <i>Лягушечья трава</i> /frog's grass/ – Water-pepper (Polygonum hydropiper L.) – growing next to water b) <b>Metonymy</b> Russian <i>Бор</i> /pine forest/ – Common heather (Calluna vulgaris L. (Hull.))

**Table 3: Pictures of Some Medicinal Plants and Most Interesting Examples of Their Names in Germanic and Slavic Languages**



Left (L)	Centre (C)	Right (R)
Aconite monkshood ( <i>Aconitum napellus</i> L.)		
<p>1 <b>German</b> <i>Aechter Sturmhut</i> /real battle helmet/, <i>Blaue Mönchskappe</i> /blue monk's hood/, <i>Blauer Pantoffel</i> /blue home slipper/, <i>Blaues Eisenhütchen</i> /blue iron hat + dim. suff./, <i>Fischerhmützen</i> /fisherman's caps/, <i>Großer Sturmhut</i> /large battle helmet/, <i>Reiterkappe</i> /equestrian's cap/, <i>Taubel im Schlag</i> /a dove + dim. suff. in the dovecote/, <i>Taubenkutschchen</i> /dove carriage/  <b>Dutch</b> lit. <i>Blauwe monnikskap</i></p>		<p><b>English</b> <i>Friar's cap</i>, <i>Large blue monk's hood</i>, <i>Priest's pintle</i>  <b>Russian</b> <i>Колпачки</i> /caps + dim. suff./  <b>Ukrainian</b> <i>Черевички</i> slippers + dim. suff./, <i>Зозуліни черевички</i> /cuckoo's slippers + dim. suff./, <i>Чобітки</i> /high boots + dim. suff./  <b>Polish</b> <i>Mniszek</i> /a monk + diminutive suff./, <i>Kapturki nibieskie</i> /contorted heavenly hoods + dim. suff./</p>
Dandelion ( <i>Taraxacum officinale</i> Wigg.)		
<p>2 </p>		<p><b>Russian</b> <i>Попова скуфья</i> /skouphos, skull cap/ – black or violet cap of ministers of the Word</p> 
<p><b>German</b> <i>Löwenmaul</i> /lion's muzzle/, <i>Löwenzahn</i> /lion's tooth/, <i>Milchstock</i> /milk stick/, <i>Pfaffenrörlein</i> /priest's tubules/, <i>Ringelblume</i> /circle, ringle/, <i>Saustock</i> /swine's stick/  <b>Dutch</b> <i>Leeuwentand</i> /lion's tooth/, <i>Ganzentongen</i> /geese's tongues/  <b>English</b> <i>Lion's tooth</i>  <b>Russian</b> <i>Еврейская шапка</i> /Jew's hat/, <i>Ланки</i> /paws + dim. suff./, <i>Львиный зубец</i> /Lion's dens/, <i>Теремок</i> /tower-chamber + dim. suff./</p>	<p><b>English</b> <i>Priest's crown</i>  <b>Russian</b> <i>Оду́плешь</i> /blow round bald patch/, <i>Плешаки</i>, <i>Плешивец</i> /bald + suff./, <i>Попова плешь</i> /priest's bald patch/, <i>Попово гуменце</i> /priest's threshing-floor + dim. suff./, <i>Шапочка-дунуть-плешка</i> /cap + dim. suff.-to blow off-bald patch/  <b>Ukrainian</b> <i>Гуменце</i> /threshing-floor + dim. suff./,  <b>Polish</b> <i>Mniszek lekarsky</i> /monk + dim. suff. + medicinal/  <b>Czech</b> <i>Pleška</i> /bald patch/  <b>Slovak</b> <i>Pampuška</i> /pampushka – a sort of fritter/</p>	<p><b>Ukrainian</b> <i>Вовчий зуб</i> /wolf's tooth/, <i>Дівоча сталість</i> /maiden's constancy/, <i>Дідки</i> /old men + suff./, <i>Жидік</i> /Jew + dim. suff./, <i>Жидівська шапка</i> /Jew's hat/, <i>Козачки</i> /Cossacks + dim. suff./, <i>Москаль</i>, <i>Москалик</i> /moskal + dim. suff./, <i>Мужеська вірність</i> /masculine fidelity/, <i>Павуки</i> /spiders/, <i>Солдатики</i> /soldiers + dim. suff./, <i>Хлопців любов</i> /chaps' love/  <b>Polish</b> <i>Męska stałość</i> /masculine constancy/, <i>Podróżnik</i> /traveler/, <i>Wołowe oczy</i> /oxen's eyes/</p>
Herb Paris ( <i>Paris quadrifolia</i> L.)		

3		<p><b>German</b> <i>Einbeere</i> /one berry/, <i>Schweinsauge</i> /swine's eye/, <i>Sternkraut</i> /star grass/, <i>Venuspiegel</i> /Venus' mirror/  <b>English</b> <i>True lover's Knot</i>, <i>Four-leaved grass</i>, <i>One berry</i>  <b>Ukrainian lit.</b> <i>Вороняче око</i> /common crow's eye/, <i>Хрест-трава</i> /cross grass/, <i>Чотирлиственник</i> /smth., which has four leaves/</p>	<p><b>Russian lit.</b> <i>Вороний глаз</i> /crow's eye/, <i>Волчьи глазки</i> /wolf's eyes + dim. suff./, <i>Крест трава</i> /cross grass/, <i>Кукушкины слезы</i> /cuckoo's tears/  <b>Polish</b> <i>Czworolist</i> /four + leaf/, <i>Jedna-jagoda</i> /one berry/, lit. <i>Wronie oko</i> /crow's eye/  <b>Czech</b> <i>Vrani oko</i> /crow's eye/</p>
---	---	--	--



European spindle-tree (Euonymus europaea L.)

4	 <p><b>German</b> <i>Pfaffenhütchen</i>, <i>Pfaffenkäplein</i> /priest's hat + dim. suff./  <b>Czech</b> <i>Kněžské čepičky</i> /small hats of the catholic priest/, <i>Kwadratky</i> /square + suffix/</p>	 <p><b>Dutch</b> <i>Gemeene Kardinaals-Muts</i>, <i>Wilde kardinaalsmuts</i> /common/wild cardinal's hat/ <i>Kardinaalshoed</i> /cardinal's hat/</p> 	 <p><b>German</b> <i>Europäischer Spindelbaum</i> /European bush-spindle/, <i>Spuhlbaum</i> /bobbin-tree/  <b>Russian</b> <i>Божьи глазки</i> /God's eyes + dim. suff./  <b>Ukrainian</b> <i>Вовчі сергі</i> /wolf's ear-rings/, <i>Божі очі</i> /God's eyes/  <b>Polish</b> <i>Trzmiel</i> /bumblebee/</p>
---	--	--	--

(Achillea millefolium L.)

5		<p><b>German</b> <i>Feldgarbe</i> /field sheaf/, <i>Katzenschwanzel</i>, <i>Hasenschwanzel</i> /a short tail of a cat/ hare/, <i>Mausleiterl</i> /the ladder of a mouse/, <i>Rippel</i> /goffer/  <b>Dutch</b> <i>Achilleskruid</i> /Achilles' grass/  <b>English</b> <i>Green arrow</i>  <b>Czech</b> <i>Husí jazýček</i> /a small tongue of a goose/, <i>Myší ocásek</i> /short tail of a mouse/  <b>Slovak</b> <i>Jazýček</i> /tongue + dim. suff./, <i>Kunica</i> /marten/  <b>Ukrainian</b> <i>Серпик</i> /scythe + dim. suff./</p>	<p><b>German</b> <i>Venusaugenbraunnen</i> /brown spots in Venus's eyes/</p>  <p><b>Russian</b> <i>Девичьи пупки</i>, <b>Ukrainian</b> <i>Дівочі пупки</i> /maiden's small navels/ <b>Russian</b> <i>Матренка</i>, <i>Матрешка</i> /popular Russian names with dim. suff., now out of use/</p>
---	---	--	---



Common mallow (Malva silvestris L.)			
6	 <p><b>German</b> Kultur-käsepappel /cheese/  <b>Dutch</b> Groot Kaasjeskruid /large cheese grass/  <b>English</b> Cheeses, Cheese-cake, Pick-cheese, Round dock</p>	 <p><b>Slovak</b> Boží chléb, Páň Bohov koláčik, /God's bread/ kalatch + dim. suff./, Pánboskou chlebíček, Pámbožkou Chlebík /God's bread + dim. suff./, Koláčki /kalatch in Pl. + dim. suff./, Pagáčki /a small round salty split in Pl. + dim. suff./, Slovak speciality/, Syrčky, Tvarožky /cheese, country cheese in Pl. + dim. suff./, Peniažková zelina /money wort/, Slimačník / snail + suff./</p> <p><b>Russian</b> Сырная трава /cheese grass/, Кошачий сыр /cat's cheese/  <b>Ukrainian</b> lit. Калачики лісові /forest kalatch in Pl. + dim. suff./, Панночка гола /arch. young maiden from a noble family + nude /</p>	
	Left (L)	Centre (C)	Right (R)

### Comments to Table 3

Every effort has been made to provide appropriate credit for illustration material. The author regrets any omission of the authors' names and promises to correct possible errors in subsequent editions.

Most of the pictures were downloaded from Wikipedia. Photo locators denoted as follows: Left (L), Center (C), Right (R); photos are also marked by figures in the left column.

C1a © 2008 Jean-Pol GRANDMONT Retrieved at

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Aconitum\\_napellus.JPG1a.jpg](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Aconitum_napellus.JPG1a.jpg)

C1b © 2010 Nataliya Panasenka

L2 A picture from the book *Köhler's Medizinal-Pflanzen* (1897) by Franz Eugen Köhler

Retrieved at [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Taraxacum\\_officinale](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Taraxacum_officinale)

C2 Fresco cycle by Fra Angelico in Dominican's cloister San Marco in Florence, scene: Derision of Christ, a detail: St. Dominic Retrieved at <http://www.c-rover.narod.ru/ang/angelico2950.htm>

R2 Greek skouphos at Internet shop Retrieved at <http://riza.vnukovalyubov.com/?p=3576>

L3 © 2005 Michael Gasperl (Migas) Retrieved at <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Paris-quadrifolia>

L4 © Luc Regniers *Euonymus europaeus* – wilde kardinaalsmuts Retrieved at

<http://leesmaar.nl/cruydtboeck/deel6/boek27/capitel24.htm>

C4a © 2007 Dieter Philippi, www.dieter-philippi.de Source Eigene Aufnahme Retrieved at

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Bonete\\_Sammlung\\_Philippi.JPG#filelinks](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Bonete_Sammlung_Philippi.JPG#filelinks)

C4b © 2010 photo communio The Pope created 24 new cardinals, 20 of them still work... Retrieved at

<http://communio.stblogs.org/2010/11/now-theres-24-new-cardinals-of.html>

R4 © 2006 [Wildfeuer/Plant Images](#) Retrieved at [http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:2006-10-09\\_Euonymus\\_europaeus02.jpg](http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:2006-10-09_Euonymus_europaeus02.jpg)

L5 A picture from the book *Köhler's Medizinal-Pflanzen in naturgetreuen Abbildungen mit kurz erläuterndem Texte : Atlas zur Pharmacopoea germanica* Retrieved at

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Achillea\\_millefolium\\_-](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Achillea_millefolium_-)

R5 © 2003 Steven J. Baskauf Retrieved at <http://www.cas.vanderbilt.edu/bioimages/image/a/acmi2-f124295.htm>

L6 © 2008 [Alvesgaspar](#) Retrieved at [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Malva\\_sylvestris](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Malva_sylvestris)

R6 A picture from the book *Köhler's Medizinal-Pflanzen in naturgetreuen Abbildungen mit kurz erläuterndem Texte : Atlas zur Pharmacopoea germanica* Vol. 1 of 3, a detail: fruit. Retrieved at

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Malva\\_sylvestris](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Malva_sylvestris)