



How Much Will a Language Change Semantically After 200 Years in Isolation?

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How much will a language change semantically after 200 years in isolation?

Currently, toponyms existing on the territory of modern Russia that have the so-called "Estonian component" rarely have a direct connection with the Estonian language, an example of this is the Tallinn cinema located in Moscow, on Sevastopol Avenue. However, there are also reverse examples when a settlement of Estonian immigrants has a name of Russian origin. Such is the village of Podgornoye, located in the Andropovsky district of the Stavropol Territory, the decree on its creation was signed in 1815. cf. read more [Toponyms of Estonian origin on the territory of modern Russia 2019].

What makes the village of Podgornoye unique is that descendants of Estonian immigrants still live there, speak their own language, and have built a Lutheran church and an Estonian school at their own expense. But, despite the efforts of local residents to preserve their culture, it is not possible to do this in full. Estonian holidays are forgotten, after 1924 children study only in Russian at school. Of the 380 people living in Podgornoye, only 70 currently speak Estonian at home.

As far as we know, the dialect of the Estonian language used in Podgornoye has hardly been studied. For the purpose of a comprehensive description of the dialect, G.V.Polyakov, as part of the work under the grant of the Russian National Science Foundation No. 20-18-00403, conducted several expeditions to the village of Podgornoye, made recordings of fairy tales, songs, stories from five native speakers on a digital dictaphone, a survey was conducted on an Estonian dictionary containing about 10 thousand words from one native speaker. The carrier remembered only about 1800 lexemes. She pronounced each one in isolation 3 times.

Then the audio recording of the survey was segmented by us in the Audacity program into individual words with translation into Russian. A dictionary was compiled from the segmented audio files, in which parallels from the modern Estonian language were also added. This dictionary is publicly available on the LingvoDoc platform, cf. [Dictionary of the Estonian dialect of the village of Podgornoye 2022].

In the future, it is planned to describe and analyze the phonetic, semantic and morphological features of this dialect of the Estonian language and compare it to the modern literary and dialects common on the territory of Estonia, by doing this, we will be able to determine the proximity of this dialect to other Estonian dialects, which in turn may allow us to assume from which region the settlers came to Podgornoye, which features this dialect is archaic, and which ones are innovative.

In this article, which is the first part of this work, it is planned to analyze the semantic differences of words from the dialect of v. Podgornoye in comparison with the literary Estonian language and dialects of Estonia. In order to classify semantic

differences, Estonian words were singled out from 1869 words in the first one, which are represented in the literary language, but with a different meaning. There were 12 such words. Next, a comparison of words between the dialect of v.

Podgornoyemade dialect and more than 250 Estonian dialects presented in the dialect dictionary of the Estonian language [Eesti murrete sõnaraamat 1994]. As a result of the comparison, two groups of words were identified: the first group has a unique meaning that is not fixed in other dialects, the meaning of the words of the second group has the same meaning in the dialect of the village of Podgornoye and some dialects of the northern and southern dialects of the Estonian language. The description of each case of the difference in the semantics of the dialect of v.

Podgornoye from the literary language has the following order: transcription and meaning of the word from S. Podgornoye, the word and its meaning in literary Estonian, abbreviated names of localities in which the reflex of the word has the same meaning, then other meanings of the word in question according to [Eesti murrete sõnaraamat 1994]. In the second group of words, the abbreviations of localities in which the meaning also used in Podgornoye occurs are underlined and highlighted in bold. Next, maps are constructed on which settlements are marked where native speakers have a word, as in the village of Podgornoye with the same meaning.

The meaning of all 12 words was checked in the following dictionaries: [Russian-Estonian dictionary : [app. 70000 words] / institute of linguistics and literature AS USSR, 1984]

[Glosbe 2012 - <https://ru.glosbe.com/et/ru> - electronic resource, date of access 21.7.22]

[Eesti Keele Instituut 2004 - <http://www.eki.ee/> - electronic resource, date of access 21.7.22]

Group I

1. *karjstata* 'to fight' - *karistama* 'to punish' Lüg Vai Har Plv Vas Ráp Kod Hls Krk San Krl; 'to punish, to fine' Lüg, Vai, Khk, Muh, Käi, Rei, Vig, Mih, Khn, Hää, Kos, JMd, Iis, Trm, Kod, Ksi, Plt, Krk, San, Har, Vas, Se, Plt, Se; 'admonish, urgently warn, prohibit' Kuu, Jõh, IisR, I, Ran, Nõo, San, V, Jõh, Trm, Kod, Nõo, San, Kan, Ráp, Se; 'cool a little, touch up' Kod, Lai; 'punish, sneak up' VNg; 'accelerate, gain speed' Sim, (Eesti Teaduste Akadeemia, 1994:740)

2. *karjstata* 'swear' - *karjutama* 'shout' Sa Muh L Mar Mih K Ris Juu Emm Rei Khk Mus Mih Ris JMd Khk (Eesti Teaduste Akadeemia, 1994:751)

3. *trvítamijne pilt* 'greeting card' - *pilt* 'painting' Tür Trm LNg Kul Kse Vän Tor Saa Ris Kos Iis Kod Pal Plt KJn San V Jäm Khk Kaa VII Pöi Muh Mar Han Tõs Hää Kei Juu Trv Hls KrkT, Har Rei Mär Khn JMd Koe VJg Trm Kuu Lüg IisR Vai Mih; 'image of someone, photo' Lüg Khk PöiMuh Rei Kul Tõs Khn Saa JMd Tür Iis Kod Hls Krk Ran Nõo Rõn Har Rõu Se; 'finch' Pöi (Eesti Teaduste Akadeemia, 1994:481)

4. *kurvaštata* 'offend' - *kurbus* 'sadness' Mar Kse Kod Puh V Rõu R eP Trv Krk Ran San Krk Puh Krl Se; 'frightening, soul' Vai Jäm Khk Muh Mar Hää Juu JMd Trm Lai Trv Har Se (Eesti Teaduste Akadeemia, 1994:66)

5. *katk* 'ruin' - *katk* 'the plague' eP Käi LNg Ris M Krk T Võn Rõu R Vai Põi Tõs Vän Juu Kod Nõo Hag Kod; 'beach, ruins, accident' Vai Khk Põi Kod Krk Kam (Eesti Teaduste Akadeemia, 1994:836)

6. *oja* 'lake' - *oja* 'stream' Kuu Hlj VNg Vai Jäm Khk VII Põi Muh Emm Rei L K, Lai eL, SJn Kam Ote Vid Lüg Jõh I; 'narrow river' Kuu Lüg Khk Põi Rei; 'over' Vig Mih Vän Tor HJn Kad Iis Trm Lai; 'skin' SJn Trv Hel Puh Nõo Ote Urv Rõu Röp Se; 'priceless water' VII Mar Juu Kam; 'trickle' MärKhN Trm Ran; 'strip, vessel' Jäm Khk (Eesti Teaduste Akadeemia, 1994:992)

7. *ots* 'the beginning' - *ots* 'the end' Muh Mar Vig Var Pä, Ris Kei Juu Pee Koe ViK Pal Lai KLõ Trm Kod; 'on, on the side' Mar Var Tõs Tor Kei Pee Koe VMr Kad Rak Äks Lai Pil KJn Kõp Vil; 'having something' Aud; 'at the end, through, in bad condition' Tõs Ris Juu VMr Kad Pal Ksi Lai KJn; 'on, on the side' Muh Mar Vig Var Tõs VMr Sim Plt (Eesti Teaduste Akadeemia, 1994:15)

8. *aevaštata* 'yawn' - *aevastama* 'sneeze' eP Phl Kod Khn M T Krl Jõe Kuu Sa Rõn Kan Se San Krl Urv Rõu Röp Hls Krl VNg Vai Jäm Kaa Põi Kei Kod Hls Nõo Urv Krl Röp Muh Kos Trm Se KJn Khk (Eesti Teaduste Akadeemia, 1994:114)

So, it can be seen that 8 lexemes represent an innovative change in meaning, and are characteristic only for the dialect of the village of Podgornoye.

Group II

1. *kirku* 'growth' - *kõrgus* 'height' Põi Muh L KuuK JMd JJn Koe VMr VJg I Plt KJn Krk Krl TLä Võn Ote Lüg Jäm Khk VII Emm Rei Jõe Kuu VNg Vai San Urv Se Har Jäm Khk; 'vertical measurement' Jõe Khk Tõs Hää VMr Lai Plt Krk; 'hay' Ran; 'human growth' **Vai Põi Mär JMd Krk**; 'tall' Lüg Vai; 'water height' VJg; 'distance to shore' Vai; 'distance to land' Lüg Vai VMr VJg; 'firmament' VJg; 'position, out of sight' Tor JMd Kod; 'pride' Rei Võn (Eesti Teaduste Akadeemia, 1994:290)

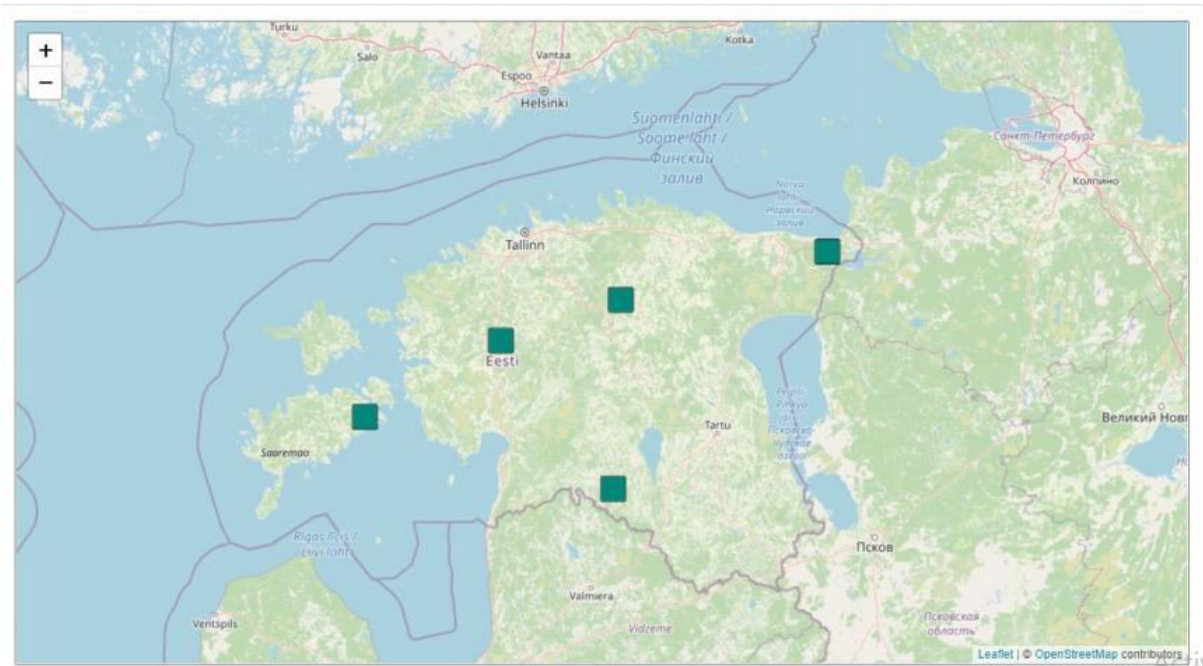


Figure 1: Localities in Estonia where *kõrgus* has the meaning 'growth'

So, it can be seen that in the northern: Vai, Pöi, Mär, JMd, and in the southern dialect: Krk *kõrgus*, as in the village of Podgornoye, *kõrgus* has the meaning 'growth'. It can be seen that the dialects in which such a meaning is represented do not form a compact area, therefore, it is an archaism lost in the literary language.

2. *laṣta laṣti* 'release' - *lahti* 'open' R eP Kod Pst Hls, TMr KodT Ote San; 'open' VNg Lüg Vai Khk Jaa Pöi Phl Mär Saa Kei Juu Amb JMd Kod Pal Vil Kod Pst Khk VII Mar Kei Sim Kod Pöi JJn; 'free from anything covering, empty' **Lüg Khk Pöi Rei Mar Aud PJg Juu VMr Trm Kaa Kuu Vai Khk Pöi Muh Mar Vän Hää Kos Vil Vai Khk**; 'clothes free from shoes' Lüg Jöh Vai Jäm Khk Pöi HJn Lai; 'unconfirmed, confirmation, grab, free, on something, off, share' Kuu Hlj VNg Jöh Vai Khk Mus VII Pöi Emm Rid Mar Kul Vig Tös PJg Kei JMd VMr Kod Pal Ksi Vil Khk Mih JJn; 'away' Vän Mar Kei; 'the outbreak has begun, in the process, on' Lüg Jäm Khk Krj Pöi Muh Mar Mär Tös Tor Ris Juu KuuK JMd VMr Kad Kod Lai KJn; 'the beginning is done' Pha Mar Ris Trm; 'skilled, busy, hardworking' Khk Mar JMd Sim Tür Vai Muh Äks; 'while, something is free' Hlj VNg Khk Kaa Pöi Muh Rei Mar Mär Var Mih Vän Ris Juu JMd Kad Trm Kod Lai Vil VNg Lüg Jäm Khk Pöi Kul Kir Mih Pal KJn Vil; 'spread, sluggish' VNg Vai Rei Vig Hää HMD HJn Ksi Tös Iis; 'open' Jöh Jäm Khk Kär Krj; 'in the hands' Pha Phl; 'grumble' Hää; 'a free man, a house' **Rid Kse Han Tös**; 'loose, upset stomach' **Lüg Khk Kär Muh Mar Mih Tös Ris Juu Kad Kod KJn** (Eesti Teaduste Akadeemia, 1994:841)

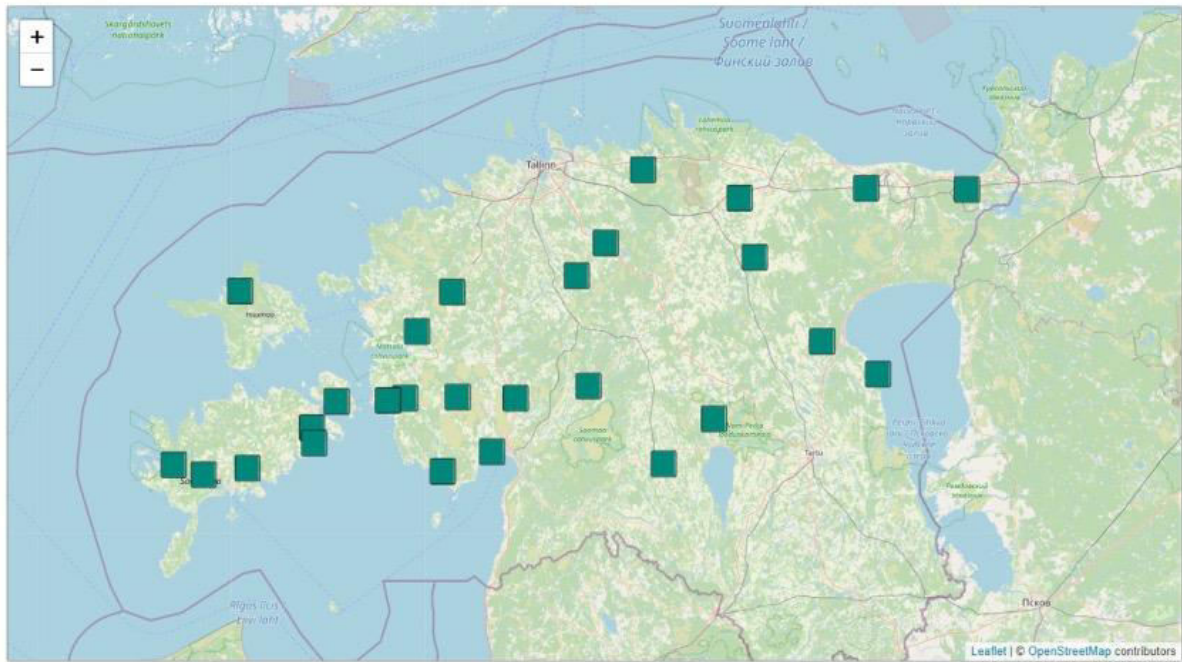


Figure 2: Localities in Estonia where *lahti* has the meaning 'to free, free'.

It can be seen that only such a meaning is represented only in the northern dialects: Lüg, Khk, Pöi, Rei, Mar, Aud, PJg, Juu, VMr, Trm, Kaa, Kuu, Vai, Khk, Pöi, Muh, Mar, Vän, Hää, Kos, Vil, Vai, Khk, Rid, Kse, Han, Tõs, Lüg, Khk, Kär, Muh, Mar, Mih, Tõs, Ris, Juu, Kad, Kod, Kjn, but for them, given the wide representation, it is probably archaic.

lollus 'rabies' - *lollus* 'nonsense' IisR Kse Tõs Saa K Kod Lai Puh Krl Krk Nõo Hlj VNg Lüg Jäm Var Emm; 'stupidity' VNg IisR Emm Kse Var Saa Juu JMd VJg Lai KJn Krk Nõo Krl; 'rabies' **Lai** (Eesti Teaduste Akadeemia, 1994:370)

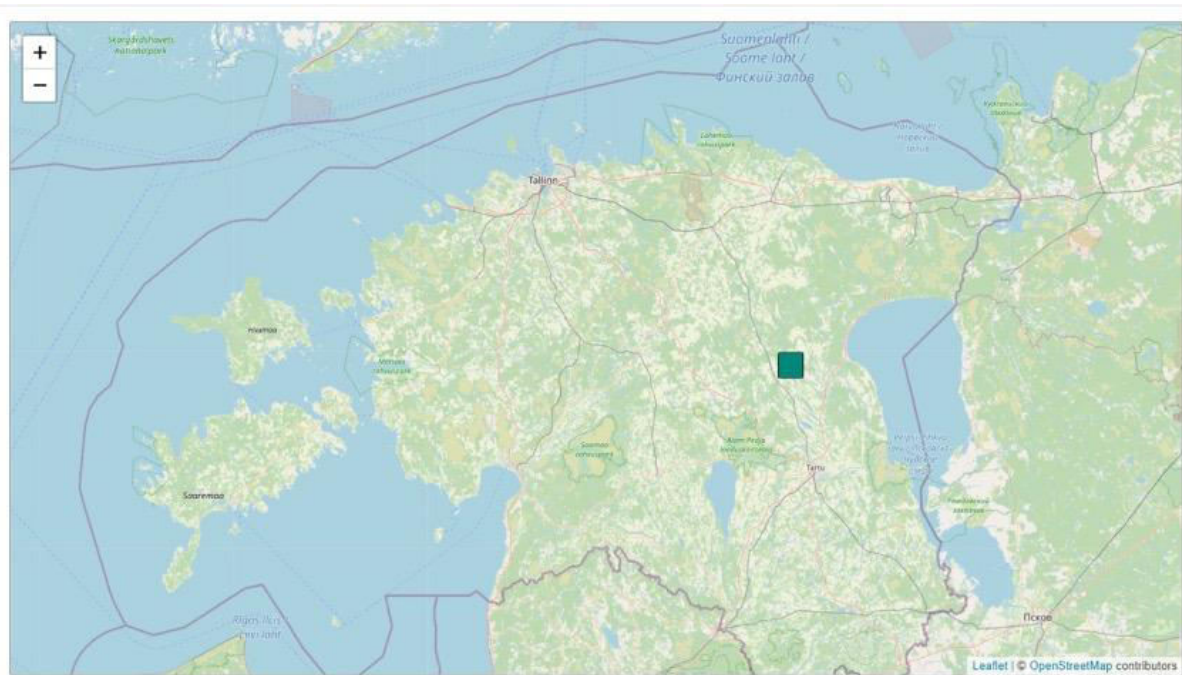


Figure 3: Localities in Estonia where *lollus* has the meaning 'rabies'.

It can be seen that such a meaning is represented in the word *lollus* only in one northern dialect of Lai.

makus 'honey' - *magus* 'sweet' eP Mar Ris RId M Trv Krk Pst Krk TLä Hel T V Râp Se Kra San Krl Lei; 'sugar, honey-flavored, delicious, sour' **Jõe Lüg Vai Jäm Khk VII Pöi**; 'nuts' Muh Emm Rei Mar Vig Var Tõs Aud Tor Hää Ris HMd Juu Kos JõeK Amb Ann; 'for sick children' VMr; 'орехи' Kad Trm Kod Pal Äks; 'обильные запасы продовольствия' Lai Plt Pst Hls; 'something delicious to eat' Krk Hel Ran Puh Nõo Võn Ote Kan Urv Krl Rõu Vas Se Lut; 'honey' **Kuu**; 'honey trees' Lüg IisR Tõs Khn Amb Tür VJg Sim Kod Äks Plt; 'shake the honey' Vil Puh NõoHar; 'sweet food' Kuu Khk Lüg Pöi; 'for dessert' Tõs; 'rhubarb' Hls San; 'apple variety' Ran Nõo; 'trying to please, flattering' VNg Khk Ran; 'great, nice' Kuu IisR Pöi Mar Lih Juu Kod Krk Krl Har Rõu Plv Râp Nõo; 'sharp, cuts well' Lüg Pöi Trm Ran (Eesti

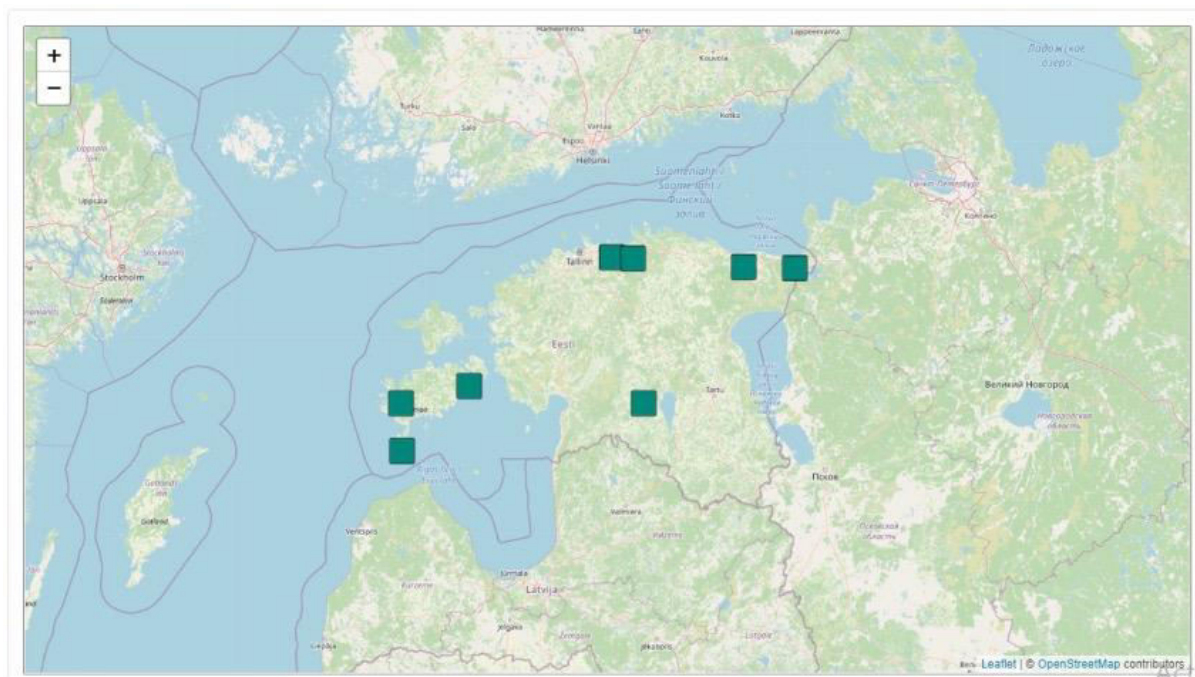


Fig. 4 Localities in Estonia have the meaning of *magus* 'honey, with the taste of honey'

So, it can be seen that only in the northern dialects: Jõe, Lüg, Vai, Jäm, Khk, VII, Pöi, Kuu, this word has the same meaning as in the village of Podgornoye, but judging by their wide geographical distribution, this meaning is also archaic for northern dialects.

So, as a result of the analysis, it was revealed that the vast majority of words (more than 1800) in the Estonian dialect of v. Podgornoye has the same meaning as in the literary language. Considering that the Estonian residents of v. Podgornoye moved more than 200 years ago, it is obvious that the literary Estonian language is quite archaic, and the dialect of the settlers had a small number of innovations, namely eight lexemes, the meaning of which has no analogues in other Estonian dialects. In one case: *kõku* 'growth' is the meaning represented in the speech of native speakers from v. Podgornoye, is absent in the literary, but is recorded in both the southern and northern dialects, that is, it is archaic. In three other cases, the innovation presented in the village of Podgornoye was noted only in northern dialects, and for the word *lollus* 'rabies' is only in one dialect of v. Laiuse. It is obvious that this material is not yet enough to speak with confidence about the dialect belonging of the dialect of the inhabitants of the village of Podgornoye. For a more precise definition, we plan to describe and compare phonetic, morphological features with other dialects, as well as analyze words that are absent in literary Estonian. There are quite a few of them (forty-seven), and a pilot analysis showed that many of them are of Baltic-Finnish origin, but have been lost in the literary language.

List of abbreviations

Amb - Ambla	IisR - Iisaku (rannikumurre)
Ann - Anna	Jaa - Jaani
Ans - Anseküla	JJn - Järva-Jaani
Aud - Audru	JMd - Järva-Madise
Emm - Emmaste	Juu - Juuru
Ha - Harjumaa	Jõe - Jõelähtme (rannikumurre)
Hag - Hageri	JõeK - Jõelähtme (keskmurre)
Haid - Ida Harjumaa	Jõh - Jõhvi
HaLo - Loode-Harj umaa	Jä - Järvamaa
HaLä - Lääne-Harj umaa	Jäm - Jämaja
Han - Hanila	Jür - Jüri
Har - Hargla	Kaa - Kaarma
Hei - Helme	Kad - Kadrina
Hi - Hiiumaa	Kam - Kambja
HJn - Harju Jaani	Kan - Kanepi
Hlj - Haljala (rannikumurre)	Kei - Keila
HljK - Haljala (keskmurre)	Khk - Kihelkonna
Hls - Halliste	Khn - Kihnu
HMd - Harju-Madise	Kir - Kirbla
Hää - Häädemeeste	KJn - Kolga-jaani
lis - Iisaku (idamurre)	Kod - Kodavere (idamurre)
IisK - Iisaku (keskmurre)	KodT - Kodavere (Tartu murre)

Koe - Koeru

Kos - Kose

Kra - Kraasna

Krj - Karja

Krk - Karksi

Krl - Karula

Kse - Karuse

Ksi - Kursi

Kui - Kullamaa

Kuu - Kuusalu (rannikumurre)

KuuK - Kuusalu (keskmurre)

Kõp - Kõpu

Käi - Käina

Kär - Kärla

Lai - Laiuse

Lei - Leivu

Lih - Lihula

LNg - Lääne-Nigula

Lut - Lutsi

Lä - Läänemaa

LäEd - Edela-Läänemaa

LäLo - Loode Läänemaa

LäLõ - Lõuna Läänemaa

LäPõ - Põhja-Läänemaa

Lüg - Lüganuse

Mar - Martna

Mih - Mihkli

MMg - Maarja-Magdaleena
(idamurre)

MMgT - Maarja-Magdaleena (Tartu
murre)

Muh - Muhu

Mus - Mustjala

Mär - Märjamaa

Nai - Naissaare

Nis - Nissi

Noa - Noarootsi

Nõo - Nõo

Ote - Otepää

Pai - Paide

Pal - Palamuse

Pee - Peetri

Pha - Püha

Phl - Pühalepa

Pii - Pilistvere

PJg - Pärnu-Jaagupi

Plt - Põltsamaa

Plv - Põlva

Pst - Paistu

Puh - Puhja

Pä - Pärnumaa

PäLo - Loode-Pärnumaa

PäPõ - Põhja-Pärnumaa

Pär - Pärnu

Põi - Pöide

Rak - Rakvere (keskmurre)

RakR - Rakvere (rannikumurre)

Ran - Rannu

Rap - Rapla

Rei - Reigi

Rid - Ridala

Ris - Risti

Rõn - Rõngu

Rõu - Rõuge

Räp - Rāpina

Sa - Saaremaa

Saa - Saarde

Said - Ida-Saaremaa

SaLä - Lääne Saaremaa

San - Sangaste

Se - Setu

Sim - Simuna

SJn - Suure-Jaani

TaPõ - Põhja-Tartumaa

TMr - Tartu-Maarja

Tor - Tori

Trm - Torma

Trv - Tarvastu

Tõs - Tõstamaa

Tür - Türi

Urv - Urvaste

Vai - Vaivara

Var - Varbla

Vas - Vastseliina

Vig - Vigala

ViK - Virumaa (keskmurre)

Vil - Viljandi

VJg - Viru-Jaagupi

VII - Valjala

VIPõ - Põhja-Viljandimaa

VMr - Väike-Maarja

VNg - Viru-Nigula

Võn - Võnnu

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