

***ahanō** Runic: ᚱ ᚰ ᚱ ᚱ ᚰ ᚰ Pronunciation: /'a.xa.nɔ:/

noun · feminine · ō-stem

Meanings

chaff; awns; the sharp, bristly refuse or husks of grain after threshing

Etymology

From Proto-Indo-European **h₂ék-on-eh₂-* / **h₂ék-ón-eh₂-*, a neuter collective noun created from an *n*-stem **h₂ék-on-*, from root **h₂ék-*, with semantic development ‘sharp point, sharp object’ → ‘awn’ → ‘chaff, grain-refuse’ in the Germano-Italic agricultural vocabulary (de Vaan 2008: 29; Kroonen et al. 2022: 13). The Germanic forms point to Proto-Germanic **ahanō* beside Vernerized **aganō*: Gothic ᚱᚰᚱᚰ (*ahana*) preserves **-h-*, while the North and West Germanic reflexes reflect **-g-*, plausibly from suffixal accent or analogical generalization of a Verner variant (Kroonen 2013: 5). Cognate with Latin *agna* < Proto-Italic **aknā*; compare Old Prussian *ackons* (though this is possibly a borrowing from Germanic), and formally related (but not identical derivatives of the same PIE root) such as Ancient Greek ἀκόνη (*akónē*), ἀκaina (*ákaina*), Sanskrit अशनि (*ásani-*), and the related cereal *s*-stem seen in Proto-Germanic **ahaz*, Latin *acus*, and Tocharian B *āke* (de Vaan 2008: 23–24; Kroonen et al. 2022: 10, 13; Watkins 2011: s.v. *ak-*). De Vaan also notes that Latin *agna* may alternatively be a Mediterranean loan.

Declension

Case	Singular	Plural
Nom.	ahanō	ahanôz
Acc.	ahanq̄	ahanōz
Gen.	ahanōz	ahanq̄
Dat.	ahanōi	ahanōmaz
Inst.	ahanō	ahanōmiz
Voc.	ahanō	ahanôz

Descendants

agnu, aegne, egnu (Old English)

agana, agena, agina (Old High German)

agene (Middle High German)

Agen, Ahne (German)

qgn (Old Norse)

øgn (Faroese)

ögn (Icelandic)

agn (Norwegian Bokmål)

agn, ogn (Norwegian Nynorsk)

agn (Swedish)

qgn (Old Norse)

awne, agune, auene, aune, awene, awun (Middle English)

awn, awns (English)

yawin, yavin, yewn (Scots)

qgn (Old Norse)

aghn (Old Danish)

avne (Danish)

𐌰𐌿𐌶𐌵 (ahana) (Gothic)

***akana** (Proto-Finnic)

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