

***aiks** Runic: ᚱ | ᚦ Pronunciation: /'aiks/

noun · feminine · consonant stem

Meanings

1. oak tree
2. oak (wood), with occasional metonymic extension to objects made of oak

Etymology

Usually derived from a Proto-Indo-European root noun, **h₂éyǵ-s*, from Proto-Indo-European **h₂eyǵ-* (Kroonen 2013: 9–10). However, the Indo-European comparison is not certain. The most common comparanda include Ancient Greek αἰγίλωψ (*aigílōps*) and possibly Latin *aesculus*, but de Vaan (2008: 28) maintains that the suffix in Latin is not clear and that it may have a substrate origin. Recent research on Greek αἰγίλωψ derives its plant senses internally from αἶξ (*aíx*) → αἰγῖλος (*aígīlos*) → αἰγίλωψ, thus it is less likely to be an inherited cognate (Parkhaeva 2024). Mallory and Adams (1997: 407) believe that **h₂eyǵ-* was a species-specific term or a term that only existed as a western/central dialect term. Since there are no formally identical Indo-European cognates for **aiks*, it is possible that it comes from a non-Indo-European substrate. Kroonen's (2012b: 242–43) argument, that root-noun inflection in Germanic can be a substrate marker, fits particularly well for this instance of a local plant name.

Declension

Case	Singular	Plural
Nom.	aiks	aikiz
Acc.	aiku	aikunz
Gen.	aikiz	aikō
Dat.	aiki	aikumaz
Inst.	aikē	aikumiz
Voc.	aik	aikiz

Descendants

*aik (Proto-West Germanic)

- *eik, *ēk (Old Dutch)
 - eike (Middle Dutch)
 - èèk, eik (Limburgish)

*aik (Proto-West Germanic)

- *eik, *ēk (Old Dutch)
 - eike (Middle Dutch)
 - eik (Dutch)
 - eik (Afrikaans)

*aik (Proto-West Germanic)

- āc, æc, aac (Old English)
 - ook, ok, ak, ake (Middle English)
 - oak (English)
 - aik, ake, yik (Scots)

*aik (Proto-West Germanic)

- ēk (Old Frisian)
 - Eeke (Saterland Frisian)
 - iik (West Frisian)

*aik (Proto-West Germanic)

- eih (Old High German)
 - eich (Middle High German)

Oach (Bavarian)

Ääch, Eech, Eich (Central Franconian)

Eiche (German)

Ääch, Eech (Rhine Franconian)

***aik** (Proto-West Germanic)

ēk (Old Saxon)

êke, êk (Middle Low German)

Eike, Eek (Low German)

Ieekj (Plautdietsch)

eik (Old Norse)

eik (Faroese)

eik (Icelandic)

eik (Old Norse)

eg (Danish)

ek (Norwegian Bokmål)

eik (Old Norse)

eik (Norwegian Nynorsk)

eik (Norwegian Bokmål)

eik (Old Norse)

ēk (Old Swedish)

ek (Swedish)

***(h)ājkkē** (Proto-Samic)

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