RIMANTAS BALSYS

## Rooster / Hen Mythologeme in Lithuanian Calendar Holidays (end of the 19th Century – Beginning of the 20th Century)

## Summary

The purpose of this article is to explore those elements of traditional period (late 19th-20th century) labor and calendar customs in which the rooster or hen predominates; to determine their symbolic meanings and origins.

Elements of calendar customs (beliefs, bans) in which special attention is paid to roosters or hens largely coincide with beliefs and bans of customs for hatching and rearing chickens. The goal of all of them is basically one and the same - the welfare of the chicken farm in every way (so that they lay as many eggs as possible, keep their yard and house, so that they don't dig crops and gardens). Various objects are used for this, which acquire magical powers on festive days or have established symbolic meanings (furnace, threshold, door frame, bow, rope wrapped in a circle, straw, festive meals, etc.).

Keywords: rooster, hen, beliefs, magic, customs, bans.