

COLLOQUY

DARRYL FRANCIS provides an update on a 35-year-old item in Word Ways. In the May 1984 issue, Ross Eckler offered an article entitled Complete Tetragram Permutations. In the article, Ross attempted to find examples of words containing all 24 combinations of the letters CILO (for example, RECOIL, LICORICE, BROCCOLI). For the IOLC combination, he thought he'd successfully discovered TRIOLCOUS, but checking Webster's Second Edition revealed that the word was correctly spelled TRIOICOUS. After an intervening 35 years, Darryl reports that it's time to fill the IOLC gap. The words **THIOLCARBAMIC** and **THIOLCARBAMATE** both appear at the entry THIOL- in the Oxford English Dictionary. Neither of these is in Webster's Second and Third Editions. The OED also offers three obsolete spellings:

- **miolc** : an Old English spelling of 'milk';
- **iolchned** : the past tense of the obsolete verb 'oluhne', to flatter;
- **siolcen** : an Old English form of the adjective 'silken'.