

OPTIMIZATION OF INVESTIGATION PROCEDURES FOR THE CRIMINAL ACT OF DISTRIBUTING ORGANIC FERTILIZERS WITHOUT DISTRIBUTION PERMITS BY THE DIRECTORATE OF SPECIAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION LAMPUNG REGIONAL POLICE

**Dani Feryansyah, Akbar Madya Pratama, Tarzan,
Bambang Hartono, Benny Karya Limantara**
University of Bandar Lampung, Indonesia

Email: daniferyansyah@gmail.com, akbarmadyap@gmail.com,
zanobimo1@gmail.com, bambang.hartono@ubl.ac.id, benny.karya@ubl.ac.id

Abstract

Keywords:

*Criminal Investigation;
Organic Fertilizer;
Distribution Permit;
Law Enforcement;
Directorate of Special
Criminal Investigation.*

This study aims to analyze the optimization of investigation procedures for the criminal offense of distributing organic fertilizer without a distribution permit by the Directorate of Special Criminal Investigation of the Lampung Regional Police, as well as to identify the obstacles encountered in the investigation process. The research employed an empirical juridical approach using primary data obtained through interviews with investigators and related informants, and secondary data collected from statutory regulations, legal literature, court decisions, and supporting documents. Data were analyzed qualitatively using descriptive analysis. The findings indicate that investigation procedures have generally been conducted in accordance with the Indonesian Criminal Procedure Code and Law Number 22 of 2019 concerning Sustainable Agricultural Cultivation Systems. However, their implementation remains constrained by several factors, including limited laboratory facilities for scientific examination, lengthy inter-agency coordination, shortages of investigators with specialized expertise, low public legal awareness, and cultural factors influencing community participation in law enforcement. These obstacles reduce the effectiveness and efficiency of criminal investigations involving organic fertilizer distributed without legal authorization. The study concludes that optimizing investigation procedures requires strengthening institutional coordination, improving forensic and laboratory facilities, enhancing investigators' technical competencies, and increasing public legal awareness through continuous education. These measures are expected to improve legal certainty, support effective law enforcement, and provide greater protection for the agricultural sector and the wider community.

INTRODUCTION

Indonesia constitutionally affirms itself as a state of law (*rechtsstaat*), which places the law as the commander in regulating the order of life in society, nation and state. This principle requires that every action of state administrators and citizens must be based on the applicable legal rules to ensure certainty, justice and benefits for all Indonesian people as stipulated in Article 1 paragraph (3) jo. Article 27 paragraph (1) jo. Article 28D paragraph (1) of the Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia 1945 (hereinafter abbreviated as the 1945 Constitution)(Jainah et al., 2020).

According to Jimly, Asshiddiqie said that the characteristics of the state of law are clearly seen because of the firmness of the separation of powers, so that it can be seen that the government is run by law and not by individual rulers. The state is obliged to be able to realize the implementation of fair justice by ensuring the creation of a situation where everyone has the right to justice for all, this creates a constitution that protects the interests of individuals and limits the power of the state(Alifiyah & Anshori, 2023).

The state of law is a concept of the existence of a state. According to Lintje, Anna Marpaung explained that the state is an organization that is the product of politics, which in this case can also be interpreted as a policy, strategy, steps, tips or policies, policies, to achieve the desired goals(Dimyati et al., 2021).

As a country of law, Indonesia aims to create order, security, justice, and prosperity through ensuring the protection of human rights that is balanced with the fundamental obligations of citizens. The consequences of this status require a strong state instrument to enforce legal norms in society. The National Police of the Republic of Indonesia (hereinafter abbreviated as the National Police) holds a central position as the main gateway in the criminal justice system to seek material truth through the investigation and investigation function. Based on Law Number 2 of 2002 concerning the National Police of the Republic of Indonesia (hereinafter abbreviated as the Police Law), it is explained that the main duties of the National Police include the maintenance of the *Kamtibmas*, law enforcement, as well as the provision of protection, protection, and community services in a professional and proportionate manner in dealing with the complexity of special crimes(Akmal, 2023).

One of the strategic sectors of special crimes that requires intensive law enforcement is the agricultural sector, considering Indonesia's vital position as an agrarian country. For this reason, the state regulates it normatively through Law Number 22 of 2019 concerning Sustainable Agricultural Cultivation Systems. This regulation is the juridical basis in the management of biological natural resources to produce agricultural commodities in a sustainable manner while maintaining the preservation of the ecosystem and the carrying capacity of the environment(Hasaziduhu Moho, 2019).

Comprehensively, development in agriculture is an integral part of the national development goals to create a just, prosperous, and food-sovereign society. An advanced, efficient, and adaptive cultivation system is not only aimed at diversifying yields and meeting domestic and export needs, but also to improve income, living standards, and equal opportunities for farmers in Indonesia(Jhoni Arwan S et al., 2026). The matters regulated in Law Number 22 of 2019 concerning Sustainable Agricultural Cultivation Systems are:

1. Agricultural Cultivation Planning;
2. Spatial planning and use of agricultural cultivated land;
3. Land Use;
4. Seeding and nursing;
5. Planting;
6. Production and entry of Crops, seeds, seedlings and animals;
7. Water utilization;
8. Agricultural protection and maintenance;
9. Harvest and post-harvest;
10. Agricultural Facilities and Agricultural Infrastructure;
11. Agricultural Operations;
12. Coaching and supervision;
13. Research and development;
14. Human resource development;
15. Information systems;
16. Community participation;
17. Sanctions.

The sustainable development system is developed in development in the agricultural sector through agricultural cultivation systems to achieve food sovereignty by paying attention to the carrying capacity of ecosystems, climate change mitigation and adaptation to realize an advanced, efficient, resilient and sustainable agricultural system (Oliinyk et al., 2022).

One of the control instruments in the law is the obligation to register and own distribution permits for every fertilizer circulating in Indonesian territory. Distribution permits are not just an administrative formality, but a state guarantee that the fertilizer has gone through quality tests and effectiveness tests so that it is safe for the environment and beneficial for plants. Without supervision through distribution permits, the risk of the circulation of non-standard or illegal fertilizers will threaten national food sovereignty.

Fertilizer is one of the products that is commonly traded related to its benefits in the agricultural sector. Indonesia as a country that produces crops, rice and other food resources, the use of fertilizers in Indonesia is a primary need for farmers. Fertilizers have an influence in increasing agricultural productivity, the use of balanced fertilizers in accordance with good crops has proven to be able to provide better productivity and income for farmers. This condition makes fertilizer a very good means for farmers.

As referred to in the provisions of Article 1 number (17) of Law Number 22 of 2019 concerning Sustainable Agricultural Cultivation Systems, it is explained that what is meant by fertilizer is chemicals, organic materials, or organisms that play a role in providing nutrients for agricultural purposes directly or indirectly.

The phenomenon of the circulation of fertilizers without distribution permits is a serious threat to food security and consumer protection, especially in Lampung Province which is a national agricultural barn. Through a case study of the case of organic fertilizers without a distribution permit with Police Report Number: LP/A/3/I/2023/SPKT. DITKRIMSUS/POLDA LAMPUNG, where this case began with public information about the production and trading of Petroganik brand organic fertilizers in 40 kg (forty kilograms) packages that allegedly did not have a distribution permit in the Metro City area. Following up on this information, on Tuesday, January 24, 2023, members of Unit

2 of Sub-Directorate I of Industry, Trade and Investment (Indagsi) of the Directorate of Special Criminal Investigation of the Lampung Regional Police (hereinafter abbreviated as Sub-Directorate 1 of the Lampung Regional Police Directorate of Criminal Investigation) checked a warehouse in Karang Rejo 23B, North Metro.

At the location, it was revealed that the modus operandi of the convict with the initials H was to produce fertilizer independently with raw materials from cow dung, husk ash and microbes (Mixtro), then package it using the rest of Petroganik sacks owned by his former company, PT. Pundi Tani Pratama, who is a former official partner of PT. Petrokimia Gresik which has been closed since mid-2022. Throughout December 2022 to January 2023, the Convicted with the initials H had produced around 30 (thirty) tons of fertilizer without a distribution permit from the Ministry of Agriculture or the approval of the official brand owner, where the product was sold for Rp.30,000,-/sack (thirty thousand per sack) and 20 (twenty) tons of which had been successfully distributed to a buyer named Winarno.

Investigators in the search process confiscated evidence in the form of 250 (two hundred and fifty) sacks of 10 (ten) tons of organic fertilizer ready for distribution, sack sewing machines, scales and other production tools. Based on laboratory examinations by experts from the Lampung Provincial Food Security Office, the nutrient content of the fertilizer was proven to be not in accordance with the packaging label. Juridically, the act of producing and distributing unregistered or unlabeled products meets the elements of a criminal act as stipulated in Article 122 jo. Article 73 of Law Number 22 of 2019 concerning Sustainable Agricultural Cultivation Systems with a maximum penalty of 6 (six) years in prison and a maximum fine of Rp.3,000,000,000,- (three billion rupiah) because it is proven to harm the exclusive rights of the brand owner and damage the sociological economic productivity of the farming community in the Lampung area.

The agricultural sector is the backbone of the economy of Lampung Province as a national food barn, so Law Number 22 of 2019 requires each fertilizer to have a distribution permit to maintain the quality of agricultural products and the environment. However, in practice, the Lampung Police Directorate of Criminal Investigation revealed the crime of illegal circulation of organic fertilizer of the "Petroganik" brand by the Convicted with the initials H who produced around 30 (thirty) tons of fertilizer without a permit from December 2022 to January 2023. Officers confiscated evidence in the form of 250 (two hundred and fifty) sacks of fertilizer as many as 10 (ten) tons of ready-to-distribute fertilizer, sack sewing machines, and scales, where the results of laboratory tests by the Food Security Service proved that the content of the fertilizer did not match the packaging label

This case represents the phenomenon of law in action related to the weak effectiveness of supervision of the distribution of agricultural production facilities in the regions. The perpetrators take advantage of the psychosocial conditions of farmers who are vulnerable to information and permissive to low prices through the mode of misuse of well-known brand packaging after the termination of the contract to deceive consumers. In reality, law enforcement faces multicausal obstacles, where investigations are hit by structural and technical gaps such as the complexity of proving nutrients in laboratories that take time and money, as well as weak periodic coordination between regional agencies. Without adequate facility support, the preventive function and deterrence effect of the agricultural criminal law will be difficult to achieve.

As a concrete manifestation of the law in action and the instrument of empirical analysis in this thesis research, a real case example is placed which is used as a fundamental reference to dissect the extent of optimizing the Investigation and Investigation Procedures carried out by the Lampung Police Directorate of Criminal Investigation. This case stretches from the quick response to arrests in the field, searches, confiscation of evidence, the formulation of expert evidence, to the success of the preparation of scientifically accountable Examination Minutes (BAP) files (scientific crime investigation) until finally it was able to be maintained juridically and reached the stage of criminal justice at the first level at the Tanjungkarang District Court Class IA.

The case of the special criminal act of distributing fertilizer without a distribution permit was officially registered on July 26, 2023 with case number 565/Pid.Sus/2023/PN.Tjk. After going through a series of comprehensive evidence before the trial, the Panel of Judges led by Chief Judge Achmad Rifai together with Member Judges Raden Ayu Rizkiyati and Samsumar Hidayat, assisted by Substitute Registrar Rini Hilawati, carry out deliberations and read the final decision on October 11, 2023. In its verdict, the Panel of Judges adjudicated and stated that the Defendant with the initials H had been legally and convincingly proven guilty of committing the crime of "Distributing unregistered and labeled fertilizers" as charged in the single indictment of the Public Prosecutor.

For this error, the Panel of Judges imposed sanctions in the form of imprisonment for 10 (ten) months and a material fine of Rp.5,000,000,-(five million rupiah), with the provision that if the fine cannot be paid by the Defendant, then the punishment will be replaced with a subsidiary imprisonment for 1 (one) month. In accordance with the provisions of procedural law, the judge determined that the length of the period of arrest and detention that had been served by the Defendant with the initials H be deducted entirely from the sentence imposed, and ordered that the Defendant remain in custody, with the burden of case costs of Rp.2,000 (two thousand rupiah).

Furthermore, the Panel of Judges determined a rigid and useful legal status related to the evidence confiscated during the investigation process by the Lampung Police Directorate of Criminal Investigations. Agricultural commodities in the form of 250 (two hundred and fifty) sacks of Petroganic organic fertilizer packaged 40 kg (forty kilograms) or a total weight of 10 (ten) tons were decided to be handed over to the Lampung Provincial Agriculture Office for structural benefits. Meanwhile, supporting evidence classified as personal work tools including 1 (one) unit of sack sewing machine, 1 (one) unit of scales, 2 (two) shovels, 2 (two) hoes, 5 (five) jerry cans of Mixtro (microbial seeds) and 1 (one) Yanmar brand wallet diesel engine, were determined to be returned to the Defendant Hariyanto Bin Jaim. Through this referral decision, the linearity of the success of the investigation process by the Lampung Police Directorate of Criminal Investigations is fully illustrated which leads to legal certainty and provides real protection for the socio-economic rights of farmers in the Lampung Province area.

RESEARCH METHODS

This study employed an empirical juridical approach to examine the implementation of criminal investigation procedures for the distribution of organic fertilizer without a distribution permit by the Directorate of Special Criminal Investigation of the Lampung Regional Police(Hartono et al., 2024). Primary data were collected through interviews with investigators and other relevant informants directly

involved in the investigation process. Secondary data consisted of statutory regulations, legal literature, court decisions, official documents, and other relevant references. The collected data were analyzed qualitatively using descriptive analysis to identify the effectiveness of the investigation procedures, the obstacles encountered by investigators, and the efforts undertaken to optimize law enforcement in accordance with applicable legal provisions.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

A. Optimization of Investigation Procedures for Criminal Acts of Organic Fertilizer Circulation Without Distribution Permits by the Directorate of Special Criminal Investigation of the Lampung Regional Police

The agricultural sector is the backbone of the economy of Lampung Province which plays a vital role as one of the national food barns. The dynamics of development in this sector require ensuring the availability of agricultural cultivation facilities that meet quality and safety standards in order to protect the livelihood of the farming community. To realize this legal certainty, the government promulgated Law Number 22 of 2019 concerning Sustainable Agricultural Cultivation Systems which explicitly requires every fertilizer commodity to have an official distribution permit. This normative obligation is aimed at mitigating the risk of environmental damage while ensuring the effectiveness of meeting technical standards for plant nutrients. However, in empirical reality, enforcement of these regulations often clashes with various *modus operandi* of economic crimes that take advantage of market scarcity gaps and the vulnerability of farmers' sociological knowledge.

The Directorate of Criminal Investigation of the Lampung Police through Sub-Directorate I Indagsi holds a very strategic structural responsibility in cracking down on the practice of distributing fertilizers without a distribution permit. One of the manifestations of real law enforcement that is referenced in this study is the disclosure of the case of the illegal organic fertilizer industry under the Petroganic brand in the Metro City area based on Police Report Number: LP/A/3/I/2023/SPKT. Directorate of Criminal Investigations/Lampung Police. The legal process targeting the suspect with the initials H revealed an astonishing fact about the large-scale production of illegal fertilizers that reached 30 (thirty) tons in a relatively short period of time. The construction of the investigation built by the police is not only directed at the physical arrest of the perpetrator at the scene of the case, but rests on fulfilling the formal legality aspect of scientific evidence so that the case file can survive the prosecution process until trial.

The legal action procedure in the field, which began with an arrest operation at the Karang Rejo 23B warehouse, North Metro, reflects the complexity of collecting legal evidence. Officers in the field were faced with a situation of proving a fairly neat mode of forgery, where the suspect H used cow dung, husk ash and Mixtro microbes which were then packaged using the rest of the official sack belonging to the former partner of PT. Petrokimia Gresik.

The use of this well-known brand packaging is a very effective instrument of trickery to deceive end consumers who prioritize low prices without caring about the legality of distribution permits. In this crucial phase, the technical capacity of the investigators was tested to carry out a series of forced actions in the form of searches and confiscations of 250 (two hundred and fifty) sacks of ready-to-distribute fertilizer along with sack sewing machines and scales used as the main means of delicacy.

Based on an interview with Kombespol Heri Rusyaman as the Director of Criminal Investigations of the Lampung Police, he emphasized the direction of the policy of cracking down on crimes in the agrarian sector. Kombespol Heri Rusyaman stated that the enforcement of special criminal laws in the food sector should not only be seen as a rigid conventional repressive act. The Lampung Regional Police is fully committed to cleaning the agricultural supply chain from illegal speculation practices that actually damage the economic joints of the lower community. The optimization of the investigation procedure in this case is directed to reach the upstream of the problem, including how to ensure that the investigation bureaucratic process runs quickly without ignoring the legality aspects of evidence regulated in the Criminal Code. Criminal sanctions must be able to be an instrument of recovery and provide a strong disincentive signal for other rogue business actors.

Although the structural commitment of the leadership level has been firmly outlined, the optimization of procedures in the field often clashes with the technical reality of proving the elements of material delicacy. Determining whether an organic fertilizer product has met quality standards or falls into the unregistered category requires a simple scientific intervention. Investigators of Sub-Directorate I Indagsi are required not only to rely on unilateral confessions from the perpetrator or buyer witnesses, but are obliged to manifest the scientific crime investigation method.

This is realized through laboratory testing of load samples to dissect the content of macro and micro nutrients contained in them. Time constraints and the cost of laboratory testing at the regional level are often a stumbling block that slows down the pace of preparation of case files at the investigation level.

Based on an interview with AKBP Andhiek Budy Kurniawan as the Head of Sub-Directorate I of Indagsi Ditreskrimsus of the Lampung Police, he gave a more specific explanation of the procedural technical obstacles faced by his staff in the field. Based on the statement of AKBP Andhiek Budy Kurniawan, criminal acts in the field of agricultural cultivation systems have very distinctive characteristics because they are intertwined with the administrative aspect of licensing from sectoral ministries. The synchronization of evidence of letters and expert statements from the Food Security Service and the Ministry of Agriculture is the key determinant to formulate the elements of "distributing unregistered fertilizers" in its entirety. Coordination between these institutions often takes a long time due to differences in the rhythm of the work bureaucracy, while the detention period of suspects runs under strict deadlines based on the provisions of the formal procedural law.

On the other hand, the perspective from the perpetrator's point of view provides a valuable empirical picture of the sociological motives behind the occurrence of this violation of the law. The convict with the initials H, when questioned after the verdict, revealed the personal and structural reasons that motivated him to carry out these illegal activities. He admitted that he used the remaining sacks of the Petroganik brand in his former workplace that had gone bankrupt purely to reduce capital costs and attract buying interest from local farmers instantly.

The convict with the initials H argued that he did not know in depth about the complicated procedures for obtaining distribution permits at the Ministry of Agriculture and considered the activity of making organic fertilizers independently from animal manure to be common in rural environments without the need for formal administrative legality from the state.

The confession of the convict emphasizes the wide gap between the normative legal text and the reality of sociological behavior at the site level. This weak legal awareness has become a fertile sociological gap for the continued circulation of agricultural inputs below national quality standards. When the investigator prepares the Minutes of the Examination, the interweaving of the facts of this crime must be arranged linearly to prove malicious intent (*mens rea*) that is intertwined with the unlawful act (*actus reus*). The preparation of the resume of the case file is required to be able to formulate a causal relationship between the act of producing fertilizer independently, packaging with other people's brands, and distributing it to victim witnesses such as Winarno who was recorded as buying up to a volume of 20 (twenty) tons.

The success of the Lampung Police Directorate of Criminal Investigation in completing the BAP file of this case until it was declared complete or P-21 by the Lampung High Prosecutor's Office is a procedural achievement that should be appreciated. The linearity of the investigation was ultimately substantively tested in the criminal justice stage at the Tanjungkarang District Court through case Number: 565/Pid.Sus/2023/PN.Tjk. The Panel of Judges who decided this case sentenced the defendant to 10 (ten) months in prison and a fine of Rp.5,000,000,- (five million rupiah) to the Convicted with the initials H because he was legally proven to have committed the crime of distributing unregistered and labeled fertilizer. This verdict shows that the construction of evidence prepared by police investigators has met the standards of at least two valid pieces of evidence and is able to give rise to the judge's confidence in deciding the case fairly.

The criminal law policy reflected in the decision also shows the aspect of legal usefulness through the status of evidence. The confiscation of 250 (two hundred and fifty) sacks of fertilizer weighing 10 (ten) tons that were decided to be handed over to the Lampung Provincial Agriculture Office instead of being destroyed shows the integration of sociological values so that these assets can be managed or evaluated for their institutional usefulness for the benefit of the region. Meanwhile, the personal means of production were returned to the defendant, which signifies the application of the principle of proportionality in the enforcement of economic criminal law. This case is an important blueprint that proves that the optimization of police investigations at the regional level greatly determines the final outcome of the enforcement of substantive justice in the courtroom.

According to Lawrence M. Friedman, describing the function of law as a tool of social control affects human life to create changes in society which includes 3 (three) components, namely:

1. Legal Substance; are the rules, norms and patterns of real human behavior that exist in that system including the products produced by the people who are in that legal system, including the decisions they make or the new rules they make.
2. Legal Structure; It is a framework, a part that remains, a part that gives a kind of form and limit to all law enforcement agencies. In Indonesia, which is the structure of the legal system, including; institutions or law enforcement such as advocates, police, prosecutors and judges.
3. Legal Culture; It is the atmosphere of the system of thought and social forces that determine how the law is used, avoided or abused by society.

Theoretically, the entire series of law enforcement phenomena, procedural obstacles, and the achievement of court verdicts in the illegal fertilizer case in Lampung

can be comprehensively dissected using the Legal System Theory initiated by Lawrence M. Friedman. Friedman offers an analytical lens that views law not as a static and stand-alone regulatory entity, but as a system of living organisms driven by three main components that are functionally intertwined. The three components include legal substance, legal structure, and legal culture. The failure or success of law enforcement in the field is always determined by the degree of synchronization and harmonization in the interaction of the three pillars.

The first component in Lawrence M. Friedman's taxonomy is legal substance which includes formal rules, norms, statutes, and actual behavior patterns of the actors in the legal system. In the context of this study, the legal substance that is the main reference is the provisions of Article 122 jo. Article 73 of Law Number 22 of 2019 concerning Sustainable Agricultural Cultivation Systems. This regulation expressly prohibits and threatens with criminal sanctions for anyone who distributes fertilizer commodities without an official distribution permit and a valid label. In terms of normative text, the substance of this law is designed with a strong spirit of public protection to ensure the certainty of the quality of agricultural products in the domestic market (Rizky Reza Pahlevi et al., 2021).

However, the existence of an ideal legal substance often faces severe challenges when faced with the characteristics of an administrative-technical nature. Modern criminal law rules in the field of agricultural economics require a linear understanding between criminal sanctions and dynamic commercial administrative procedures. When legal rules are formulated rigidly without anticipating legal loopholes in the distribution chain, the substance of the law can lose its reach in the field. Therefore, the court decision and the investigator's decision to use a single offense in the case of the Convicted with the initials H show how the substance of the law is interpreted pragmatically but still the procedural law corridor in order to achieve the effectiveness of the prosecution (Zainudin Hasan et al., 2023).

The second component in Lawrence M. Friedman's framework of thought is the legal structure which refers to the institutional, institutional, and law enforcement apparatus that are tasked with implementing and enforcing the existing rules of the game. This legal structure provides the physical form, operational limits and working mechanisms of the legal system in a country. In Indonesia, this legal structure is represented in real terms by the existence of police institutions, prosecutors' offices, courts and advocacy institutions. The main focus of this thesis research specifically highlights the performance, function and optimization of procedures in one of the important elements of the legal structure, namely Sub-Directorate I of the Directorate of Criminal Investigation of the Lampung Police as the main gateway for screening economic criminal cases (Hasan et al., 2023).

The optimization of investigation procedures carried out by the Sub-Directorate I of the Directorate of Criminal Investigation of the Lampung Police is essentially an effort to improve and strengthen the aspects of the legal structure. When this legal structure experiences internal weaknesses such as the limitation of the technical competence of investigators, slow coordination between agencies or the lack of specific testing laboratory facilities in the regions, the substance of the law that has been properly promulgated by the legislature can never be effectively implemented in the sociological reality of society. Strengthening the structure through operational standardization, accelerating the investigation bureaucracy and increasing synergy with agricultural

experts are absolute prerequisites for police institutions to be able to break down the walls of administrative obstacles in proving agricultural crimes.

The third component that completes Lawrence M. Friedman's ecosystem of thought is legal culture, which is described as the atmosphere of thoughts, values, beliefs and social forces that determine how formal law is responded, used, avoided or even abused by society at large. Legal culture acts as a driving force that determines the life or death of a legal system in the midst of social reality. In the case of illegal fertilizer circulation in Lampung, the portrait of the legal culture of the peasant community shows a worrying characteristic, where low legal awareness is combined with the squeeze of the emergency economy. This condition gives birth to permissive behavior where the legality of distribution permit products is often sacrificed in order to get agricultural inputs at low prices that are affordable in their pockets.

The mutual interaction between the three components of the Lawrence M. Friedman legal system is clearly seen in the dynamics of case handling by Sub-Directorate I of the Directorate of Criminal Investigation of the Lampung Police. When the legal structure (investigators) tries to enforce the substance of the law (Law Number 22 of 2019 concerning the Sustainable Agricultural Cultivation System), the investigators are directly confronted with a thick wall of community legal culture that has not fully supported the urgency of the legality of distribution permits. Illegal business actors take advantage of the lax legal culture and the limitations of structural supervision to reap instant financial benefits. This destructive pattern confirms that socio-economic crimes in the agrarian sector can never be solved completely if law enforcement only takes a repressive approach without touching the roots of improving the legal culture of the connoisseurs of the product.

More in-depth, an analysis of the performance of the legal structure in implementing Article 122 jo. Article 73 of Law Number 22 of 2019 demands a paradigm update from law enforcers themselves. Investigators of the Sub-Directorate I of the Directorate of Criminal Investigation of the Lampung Police must no longer be trapped in rigid legal formalisms that only pursue the target of completing case files (case clearance rate). The legal structure must be able to act as an agent of social change that integrates law enforcement measures with massive sociological education to farmer group associations in the regions. Thus, regulations regarding fertilizer distribution permits are no longer viewed as a difficult administrative burden, but are understood as an essential protective fortress for sustainable food security. (Fahrizal S. Siagian, 2023)

The multicausal obstacles faced by investigators in the field also reflect the imbalance of capacity between institutions in the legal structure itself. Slow coordination between the Directorate of Criminal Investigation and testing laboratories under the Agriculture Service or the Food Security Service shows that horizontal communication between technical institutions still requires binding standard operational standardization. When proving the nutrients of fertilizers takes months, the legal structure is considered to have failed to provide quick legal certainty for the community. Therefore, the policy recommendations in this thesis encourage the establishment of an integrated food law enforcement coordination forum in Lampung Province to cut bureaucratic barriers that hinder the conduct of scientific crime investigations.

The application of scientific crime investigation as part of the optimization of the legal structure also plays an important role in undermining the defense tactics of criminals in trial. Sophisticated modus operandi such as abusing official brand packaging that is no

longer in operation requires the integrity of investigators in building a chain of supervision of evidence (chain of custody). If the legal structure is negligent in maintaining the legality of the confiscation of evidence of illegal sacks of fertilizer, then at the trial stage the evidence can be declared formally defective based on the applicable procedural law doctrine. The success of the case of the Convicted with the initials H until he was convicted proves that the legal structure within the Lampung Police has run on the correct procedural corridor, even though the room for improvement in time efficiency remains wide open.

In the end, the academic reconstruction of the enforcement of agricultural criminal laws in Lampung Province emphasizes that the optimization of the legal structure is the key determinant in bridging the law in the text of the law book with the law that works in the midst of the social reality of the community. Sub-Directorate I of the Directorate of Criminal Investigation of the Lampung Police, through the commitment of leadership and operational acumen of its investigators, has shown real efforts to enforce the authority of the legal substance of national food security. This success must continue to be maintained and improved through consistent internal institutional reforms, improvement of testing technology facilities, and expansion of sociological partnerships with civil society so that a fair, certain, and beneficial legal ecosystem can stand tall in Lampung Province.

Based on a comprehensive analysis of the entire series of investigative procedures and theoretical elaboration using the framework of Lawrence M. Friedman's legal system, a profound analytical conclusion can be drawn. The success of the crime of distributing organic fertilizers without a distribution permit by the Lampung Police Directorate of Criminal Investigation is highly dependent on the functional integration between the firmness of the legal structure in carrying out the formal procedural law and the reliability of scientific evidence to manifest the substance of the law in its entirety. The technical obstacles of the laboratory and the vulnerability of the permissive legal culture of local farming communities must be answered through multidimensional procedural optimization steps. Ideal law enforcement should not stop at the repressive aspect of imposing corporal criminal sanctions on perpetrators in court, but must be able to touch the improvement of the community's legal culture and create a reliable agrarian supply chain supervision system to protect sociological food sovereignty in Lampung Province.

Based on the description above, it can be analyzed that the Optimization of Investigation Procedures for Criminal Acts of Organic Fertilizer Circulation without a Distribution Permit by the Lampung Police Directorate of Criminal Investigation relies on strengthening the three main pillars integratively. Investigators of Sub-Directorate I Indagsi have successfully implemented the scientific crime investigation method through the fulfillment of legal evidence and laboratory tests, although the efficiency of cross-sectoral coordination in the regions still needs to be standardized to overcome the constraints of limited detention time. In addition, the application of Article 122 jo. Article 73 of Law Number 22 of 2019 has proven to be juridically strong in providing legal certainty and a deterrence effect until reaching an inconclusive verdict in court. The repressive actions of the police must ultimately be balanced with massive sociological education to reform the mindset of the farming community in Lampung so that they are no longer permissive towards cheap products without distribution permits, in order to maintain consumer protection and national food sovereignty.

B. Factors that hinder Investigators of the Directorate of Special Criminal Investigation of the Lampung Regional Police in Optimizing Procedures for Investigating Crimes of Organic Fertilizer Circulation Without Distribution Permits

Law enforcement against the crime of distributing organic fertilizers without a distribution permit in the jurisdiction of Sub-Directorate I of the Directorate of Criminal Investigations of the Lampung Police faces various obstacles that are multidimensional. Although Law Number 22 of 2019 has provided a clear legal basis regarding the obligation of distribution permits for agricultural production facilities, its implementation in the field has not been running optimally. The complexity of evidence that combines aspects of administrative law and criminal law causes the investigation process to require more comprehensive scientific evidence so that the settlement of cases often takes longer.

The most dominant obstacle comes from the limitations of scientific proof means. Investigators do not yet have a special laboratory that is able to test the content of fertilizers independently, so they have to rely on laboratories owned by other agencies. This dependence extends the sample examination process, while investigators are still limited by the detention period as stipulated in the Criminal Code. This condition causes investigators to face a dilemma between meeting scientific proof standards and resolving cases according to the specified time limit.

Based on the results of an interview with Kombes Pol. Heri Rusyaman as the Director of Criminal Investigations of the Lampung Police, the limited laboratory facilities are the structural obstacles that most affect the effectiveness of the investigation. Law enforcement in the field of agricultural economic crimes requires accurate laboratory test results as the main evidence. Therefore, the reliance on external agencies in conducting testing often slows down the case resolution process even though investigators have made efforts to maximize available resources.

In addition to limited facilities, weak coordination between the police and technical agencies is also an inhibiting factor. Based on an interview with AKBP Andhiek Budy Kurniawan as the Head of Sub-Directorate I of the Lampung Police Directorate of Criminal Investigations, cross-sectoral coordination is still incidental so that the process of verifying distribution permits, expert examinations, and issuing administrative documents takes a relatively long time. This condition causes the synchronization of evidence to be less effective and has an impact on the slow resolution of case files.

Obstacles to investigation are also influenced by external factors derived from the behavior of business actors and the social conditions of the community. The perpetrators take advantage of weak supervision by using fertilizer packaging from official companies or marketing products that resemble legal fertilizers so that they are difficult to distinguish by the public. Based on an interview with the convict with the initials H, his actions were driven by economic motives due to the high demand for cheap fertilizers amid the scarcity of subsidized fertilizers. This shows that there is a clash between the economic interests of the community and the applicable legal provisions.

These problems can be analyzed using Soerjono Soekanto's Legal Effectiveness Theory which states that the success of law enforcement is influenced by legal factors, law enforcement, facilities or facilities, society, and culture. Legal effectiveness can only be achieved if all of these factors support each other. On the contrary, weaknesses in one of the factors will affect the success of the overall application of the law.

Judging from legal factors, Law Number 22 of 2019 has regulated strict criminal sanctions against the circulation of fertilizers without a distribution permit. However, the characteristics of the offense that relies heavily on administrative evidence cause investigators to obtain verification from agricultural agencies regarding the legality status of the product before the criminal process can continue. The dependence on these administrative procedures makes the law enforcement process less efficient.

From the aspect of law enforcement and supporting facilities, the limited number of investigators who have special competence in the field of agricultural economic crimes and the lack of laboratory facilities are significant obstacles. This condition is exacerbated by the low legal awareness of the public who consider the price of fertilizer more than the legality of the product. As a result, public participation in providing information about the circulation of illegal fertilizers to law enforcement officials is still very limited.

Cultural factors also affect the effectiveness of law enforcement. The culture of the community that prioritizes family problem solving and the emergence of sympathy for local business actors causes law enforcement actions to often be perceived as actions that harm small communities. This perception reduces public support for the investigation process and shows that the success of law enforcement is also influenced by the legal culture that develops in social life.

Based on the overall analysis, obstacles to the investigation of the crime of distributing organic fertilizers without a distribution permit at the Lampung Police Directorate of Criminal Investigations come from the limited scientific evidence facilities, weak coordination across agencies, limited investigator competence, low public legal awareness, and legal culture that has not supported the effectiveness of law enforcement. Therefore, it is necessary to strengthen inter-agency cooperation, improve laboratory facilities, develop investigator capacity, and educate the public so that the investigation process can run more effectively and be able to provide legal certainty as well as protection for the agricultural sector.

CONCLUSION

The optimization of the Investigation Procedure for the Crime of Organic Fertilizer Circulation without a Distribution Permit by the Lampung Police Directorate of Criminal Investigation relies on strengthening the three main pillars integratively. Investigators of Sub-Directorate I Indagsi have successfully implemented *the scientific crime investigation method* through the fulfillment of legal evidence and laboratory tests, although the efficiency of cross-sectoral coordination in the regions still needs to be standardized to overcome the constraints of limited detention time. In addition, the application of Article 122 *jo.* Article 73 of Law Number 22 of 2019 has proven to be juridically sound in providing legal certainty and a *deterrence effect* until reaching an inkrah verdict in court. The repressive actions of the police must ultimately be balanced with massive sociological education to reform the mindset of the farming community in Lampung so that they are no longer permissive towards cheap products without distribution permits, in order to maintain consumer protection and national food sovereignty.

The obstacles to investigating the crime of distributing organic fertilizers without a distribution permit at the Lampung Police Directorate of Criminal Investigations come from the limited scientific evidence facilities, weak coordination across agencies, limited investigator competence, low public legal awareness, and legal culture that has not

supported the effectiveness of law enforcement. Therefore, it is necessary to strengthen inter-agency cooperation, improve laboratory facilities, develop investigator capacity, and educate the public so that the investigation process can run more effectively and be able to provide legal certainty as well as protection for the agricultural sector.

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