

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW PERSPECTIVE ON THE PROTECTION OF PALM OIL PLANTATION YIELDS FROM CRIMINAL ACTS

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Abstract

Protecting palm oil yields from criminal acts is an important issue in the plantation industry, especially in areas with high crime rates. From an administrative law perspective, comprehensive regulations are needed to ensure security for business actors, farmers, and the surrounding community. This study focuses on analysing the legal framework, inter-agency cooperation, and the role of education as measures to prevent and address criminal activities that harm plantation yields. Through strengthened regulations, integrated monitoring, and active community involvement, it is hoped that solutions will be developed that are not only effective but also sustainable in maintaining the security and sustainability of this industry.

Keywords: *Administrative Law, Protection of Oil Palm Plantation Products, Criminal Activities.*

Abstrak

Perlindungan hasil kebun sawit dari aksi kriminalitas merupakan isu penting dalam industri perkebunan, terutama di wilayah yang memiliki tingkat kejahatan tinggi. Dari perspektif hukum administrasi, diperlukan regulasi yang komprehensif untuk memastikan rasa aman bagi para pelaku usaha, petani, dan masyarakat sekitar. Penelitian ini berfokus pada analisis kerangka hukum, kerja sama lintas lembaga, dan peran edukasi sebagai langkah untuk mencegah serta menanggulangi tindakan kriminal yang merugikan hasil perkebunan. Melalui penguatan regulasi, penerapan pengawasan yang terintegrasi, serta pelibatan aktif masyarakat, diharapkan tercipta solusi yang tidak hanya efektif, tetapi juga berkelanjutan dalam menjaga keamanan dan keberlangsungan industri ini.

Kata Kunci: Hukum Administrasi, Perlindungan Hasil Kebun Sawit, Aksi Kriminalitas.

Introduction

The palm oil industry plays a strategic role in Indonesia's economy. As one of the country's leading commodities, palm oil makes a significant contribution to government revenue, creates jobs, and strengthens Indonesia's position as a major player in the global palm oil market. This crop produces palm oil, an important raw material used in various industries, such as food, cosmetics, and renewable energy (Putra, 2024). Indonesia is the world's largest producer of palm oil, making it one of the countries with significant influence in the global market. Revenue from palm oil exports is a major contributor to the country's foreign exchange earnings, while also enhancing Indonesia's competitiveness on the international stage. Additionally, the palm oil industry contributes to rural development, as many palm oil plantations are located in remote areas, thereby driving local economic growth (Husarno, 2020).

Furthermore, the palm oil sector has a positive impact on job creation. Millions of people, including small-scale farmers and workers in large companies, rely on this industry for

their livelihoods. Palm oil plantations also help improve the welfare of communities, particularly in areas that were previously underdeveloped (Soemarno, 2018). However, despite its economic benefits, the palm oil industry also faces challenges such as environmental and sustainability issues. Therefore, it is important for the government, industry players, and the community to work together to take steps to ensure that these resources are managed responsibly, so that the benefits can be felt in the long term without neglecting social and environmental aspects.

However, despite its enormous potential, the palm oil sector often faces various challenges, one of which is criminal activity targeting palm oil plantations (Rama & Kurniawati, 2022). Criminal activity is any act that violates the law and social norms, usually committed intentionally to cause harm to others, whether physically, materially, or morally.

Examples of criminal acts include theft, fraud, property damage, and acts of violence. These acts not only harm the victims directly but can also disrupt public order and a sense of security in the community (Saputra, 2023).

Criminal acts against oil palm plantations include theft of fresh fruit bunches (FFB), destruction of plantation facilities, and sabotage of production distribution. Such crimes cause significant losses for farmers, plantation managers, and even the government. Not only are these criminal acts financially damaging, they also hinder smooth production and reduce investor confidence in the security of the palm oil plantation sector (Kusuma, 2023).

In a legal context, protecting palm oil plantation yields requires a systematic and effective approach. One instrument that can be used is administrative law, which is a branch of law that regulates how state officials carry out their duties and functions, including ensuring security and order in the agricultural sector. Through administrative law, the government can formulate policies for the prevention, supervision, and handling of crimes in the palm oil plantation sector (Prasetyo, 2020).

Unfortunately, the implementation of administrative law in the context of protecting palm oil plantation yields still faces various obstacles. In the field, there are often weaknesses in coordination between institutions, a lack of adequate resources, and bureaucratic barriers that slow down responses to security issues. Additionally, many small-scale farmers are not fully aware of the legal mechanisms available to protect them, making them vulnerable to criminal activities (Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Indonesia, 2023).

Therefore, a comprehensive study is needed to explore how administrative law can be more effectively utilised to protect oil palm plantation products from criminal activities. This research aims to provide an overview of the role of administrative law, identify existing challenges, and propose practical solutions, thereby enabling the oil palm industry to operate safely and efficiently.

Research Method

This study uses a literature review method. A literature review is a method of collecting data and information by utilising written sources such as books, journals, articles, documents, and research reports. This method aims to understand, analyse, or develop knowledge based on a review of existing works (Green et al., 2006); (Torraco, 2016). Researchers use this technique to strengthen theoretical foundations, identify research gaps, or compare various perspectives relevant to the topic under discussion. Since it does not involve direct data collection, this

method is considered practical and cost-effective; however, it still requires analytical skills and critical thinking to ensure that the sources used are valid, reliable, and relevant (Bolderston, 2008).

Results and Discussion

The Role of Administrative Law in the Protection of Palm Oil Plantation Yields

Administrative law plays an important role in protecting palm oil yields. With the growing palm oil industry, the need for clear and effective regulations has become increasingly urgent. Administrative law serves to ensure that every aspect of palm oil plantation management, from planting to distribution of harvests, is carried out in accordance with applicable regulations (Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Indonesia, 2023).

One of the main roles of administrative law is to establish standards and operational procedures that must be followed by producers. These standards cover land use, planting techniques, crop maintenance, and safe and sustainable harvesting methods. With clear regulations in place, producers have clear guidelines for running their farms, thereby ensuring the quality of their harvest (Norwana, 2022).

In addition to setting standards, administrative law also functions in granting business permits and monitoring compliance. To start a palm oil plantation, producers must go through a strict permit application process. This process involves an assessment of environmental and social impacts, so that only businesses that meet the requirements can operate. Supervision is then carried out periodically to ensure that the rules are followed. When violations occur, administrative law provides clear and fair enforcement mechanisms. Sanctions can include fines, licence revocation, or other legal actions, depending on the severity of the violation. This is important to maintain healthy competition and prevent practices that harm the environment and the community (Kartika & Johansen, 2021).

The protection of palm oil yields also involves ensuring the quality of the final product. The government, through relevant agencies, conducts routine testing of palm oil products. These tests aim to ensure that the products reaching the public are safe for consumption and comply with international standards. As a result, consumers receive quality products and producers can maintain their good reputation (Zulkarnain & Pratama, 2021).

Administrative law also plays a role in empowering small palm oil farmers by providing access to information, technology, and funding. With this support, small farmers can improve the productivity and quality of their plantations. Training and extension programmes are also held regularly so that farmers can continue to develop their skills in line with the latest developments (Rahman, 2021).

In the context of environmental protection, administrative law establishes regulations on waste management and pesticide use. These regulations aim to reduce the negative impact of plantation activities on the surrounding environment. Producers are required to implement environmentally friendly methods and be responsible in managing natural resources (Sulistiyowati, 2015).

Administrative law also ensures community involvement and participation in every stage of oil palm plantation management. Through public consultation and information transparency, the community is given the opportunity to express their input and concerns. This participation

is important for creating harmonious relations between producers and local communities, as well as ensuring that the interests of all parties are accommodated (Handayani, 2019).

In addition, administrative law plays a role in promoting good governance practices in the palm oil sector. By adopting good governance principles such as accountability, transparency, and participation, palm oil plantation management can run more efficiently and effectively. This also paves the way for increased investment and broader international cooperation. As part of global market integration, administrative law also aligns regulations with international standards (Nasrullah, 2020). This is important to ensure that Indonesian palm oil products are accepted in global markets with strict requirements regarding quality and sustainability. This alignment also provides a competitive advantage for producers in facing international competition. In addition to technical regulations, administrative law also considers social and economic aspects in protecting palm oil plantation products. Policies that favour farmers and plantation workers, such as economic empowerment programmes and improvements in working conditions, help create a fair and prosperous working environment. Legal protection of workers' rights is also guaranteed to prevent exploitation and improve their quality of life (Putra, 2024).

Lastly, the role of administrative law cannot be separated from collaboration between government agencies and various stakeholders. This collaboration is crucial for creating synergy in the implementation of regulations and ensuring that all policies issued can be effectively enforced on the ground. By working together, various challenges in protecting oil palm plantation products can be addressed more optimally, ultimately benefiting all parties involved (Saputra, 2023).

Thus, the role of administrative law in protecting oil palm plantation products is highly complex and involves numerous aspects, ranging from operational technicalities, environmental considerations, social factors, to economic dimensions. Through clear regulations and consistent implementation, oil palm plantation products can be effectively protected, enabling this industry to contribute positively to sustainable development and the well-being of society.

Legal Obstacles and Challenges in the Protection of Palm Oil Plantation Yields

Obstacles and challenges in administrative law related to the protection of palm oil plantations have various aspects that need to be considered. Palm oil is an important commodity for the country's economy, but its protection is often challenging amid complex and overlapping regulations.

Administrative law policy is a crucial element, but there are many obstacles that can hinder its effective implementation (Husarno, 2020). One of the main obstacles is the lack of harmonisation between regulations at the central and regional levels. Many policies related to palm oil are issued by the central government, such as rules on plantation management, crop certification, and commodity exports.

However, on the other hand, local governments often have local regulations that are different or not synchronised with central regulations. This inconsistency can create confusion for business actors and hamper the smooth running of administrative processes (Soemarno, 2018).

The second problem is weak supervision in protecting palm oil plantation yields. In many cases, the implementation of administrative policies in the field often does not comply with established regulations. For example, supervision of crop certification or land management permits is often inadequate. This opens the door to violations, such as crops that do not meet standards or activities that damage the environment (Rama & Kurniawati, 2022).

Furthermore, limited human resource capacity in government agencies also poses a challenge. Officials often face heavy workloads and lack training or expertise in palm oil management. As a result, the interpretation of administrative laws becomes inconsistent, and policy implementation is often ineffective. In addition, issues of corruption and abuse of authority add to the complexity of the problem. In some cases, administrative legal processes to protect palm oil yields are not transparent due to unethical practices. This not only harms business actors but also creates distrust in the existing legal system (Kusuma, 2023).

Another factor is the resistance of local communities to certain administrative legal policies. People living near oil palm plantations often have different views on land use and plantation yields. When government policies do not take into account the needs or complaints of local communities, conflicts can arise and hinder policy implementation (Prasetyo, 2020).

From a legal perspective, loopholes or ambiguities in regulations also pose a major obstacle. Some regulations on the protection of palm oil yields may still have ambiguous definitions, allowing for various interpretations by relevant parties. These legal loopholes can be exploited by certain parties to avoid their obligations (Nasrullah, 2020).

In addition, technological challenges and access to data are other obstacles. The protection of palm oil yields requires accurate data management and transparent systems, such as information on harvest volumes, land mapping, and ecological impacts. However, many regions face technological limitations or lack access to the data needed to support these administrative legal policies (Handayani, 2019).

The protection of palm oil yields is also often hampered by a lack of coordination with the private sector. In fact, business actors such as palm oil companies are often key players in the production chain. When government regulations are not integrated with industry needs, policy implementation in the field becomes increasingly difficult (Sulistiyowati, 2015).

The impact of these obstacles is not only detrimental to the palm oil sector itself, but also to the economy and the environment as a whole. Poorly managed palm oil yields can reduce state revenue while triggering ecosystem damage. Therefore, solutions to administrative law constraints in palm oil protection must be a priority (Rahman, 2021).

As a way out, the government needs to strengthen coordination between the central and regional governments to create harmonised policies. Training relevant officials to have the capacity to implement regulations is another important step. In addition, transparency and strict supervision must be the basis of the administrative law process to avoid abuse of authority (Zulkarnain & Pratama, 2021).

Ultimately, protecting palm oil plantations through administrative law requires a comprehensive approach. Collaboration between the government, the community, and the industry is key to overcoming existing challenges. By implementing harmonious, transparent, and data-driven policies, palm oil plantations can be better protected and provide sustainable benefits for all parties.

Conclusion

From an administrative law perspective, protecting palm oil yields from criminal acts requires a clear and effective regulatory framework. Such regulations are important to ensure that all parties involved in the plantation industry, from farmers to large companies, have proper guidelines for protecting their assets. The government needs to provide rules that focus on monitoring and protecting plantation yields by involving law enforcement agencies to reduce the likelihood of crime.

In addition to strong regulations, collaboration between relevant agencies and institutions also needs to be strengthened. Parties such as law enforcement officials, community organisations, and stakeholders in the palm oil industry must work together to prevent and address crimes in palm oil plantations. This approach will not only improve security but also build trust among all parties in the existing system. In this way, the protection of palm oil yields can be implemented more effectively and comprehensively.

In addition, education and socialisation also play an important role in protecting palm oil yields. Educating farmers and surrounding communities about the importance of maintaining security and reporting suspicious activities can increase awareness and participation in the field. An approach that involves local communities will create a safer environment where all parties feel responsible for the security of their palm oil plantation products. With these measures, it is hoped that the protection of palm oil plantation products from criminal acts can be better achieved.

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