

Soft Drugs - Hard Crime

**Towards an integral strategy dealing
with organised cannabis cultivation**

POLITIE NEDERLAND



**Including a tactical-operational manual
for dismantling operations**

« waakzaam en dienstbaar »



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Disclaimer

This operational manual has been translated in English and was based on a Dutch text. Several functions, abbreviations and organisations are typically Dutch and have not been translated for that reason. If you have questions about these terms, please contact the Dutch contact person in your organisation.

**version 1.2
August 2010**

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Version: 1.2 (7 August 2010)

Status: Defined by the Dutch Police on 12 October 2010

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**Towards an integral strategy dealing with
organised cannabis cultivation**

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Introduction

This vision for an integral strategy for dealing with organised cannabis cultivation is based on intervention pursuant to the Dutch Opium Act and the Dutch Code of Criminal Procedure, focusing on the identification of criminal structures behind organised cannabis cultivation. The strategy is to provide support for productive managerial follow-up. A managerial version of this manual is currently being prepared by the CCV (Centre for Crime Prevention and Safety) and the VNG (Association of Netherlands Municipalities).

No nursery is completely independent.

Police forces in the Netherlands are increasingly confronted with the problem of organised cannabis cultivation. Cannabis cultivation was once a fairly innocent and small-scale form of criminal behaviour, but has become a tough, criminal world of extremely large profits, violence and eliminations. Research reveals that the many (relatively small) nurseries are part of criminal organisation's distribution of risk. Together, all these small nurseries make up a network with many connections that are often inter-regional or even international. The lesson that should, by now, be obvious is that no nursery is completely independent!

Moreover, research reveals that 80% of the people involved in cannabis cultivation repeat the offence, and consequently, dismantling one nursery almost certainly

means that another will be constructed. Therefore, a strategy for dealing with cannabis cultivation will only be worthwhile if it concentrates on dealing with the criminal organisations that behind the cultivation of cannabis, if necessary, by clamping down on the individual facilitators.

Government authorities, the police, the Public Prosecution Service and chain partners all require an integral strategy that goes beyond dealing with the trouble caused by cannabis cultivation. This strategy starts with "halting" and ends with prosecution. In such a strategy, dismantling cannabis nurseries is no longer an independent, but rather an "ordinary" conclusion. But it is, nevertheless, an important link in the chain.

Towards an integral strategy for dealing with organised cannabis cultivation.

In many police forces, dismantling a cannabis nursery has not been regarded as an isolated operation for some time now. In addition, the dismantling operation often occurs with the necessary collaboration from partners such as municipal authorities, electricity companies and the Public Prosecution Service. At the request of various police forces, the Program on Fighting Organised Cannabis Cultivation (PFOCC) has collected several best practices and initiatives from practical police experience, insights gained from the FinEc (National Police Financial Crime Investigation) program and the

Intelligence program and incorporated them into this document in three sections:

1. **Aims**

Why we should decide to adopt an integral strategy for dealing with cannabis cultivation?

2. **Organisation**

How should we structure regional direction and coordination?

3. **Implementation**

A tactical-operational manual for dismantling operations.

The section on **aims** feature a strategic, policy-based description of the importance of dismantling operations as part of the strategy for dealing with cannabis cultivation; it places the dismantling of cannabis nurseries within the broader perspective of organised cannabis cultivation. Moreover, it links monitoring and enforcement, investigation (including financial-economic investigation and forensic investigation) and intelligence. The regional investigation process owner has an important part in the strategy for dealing with organised cannabis cultivation, partly because of these connections.

The section on **organisation** discusses the organisational consequences of an integral strategy for dealing with organised cannabis cultivation. The construction of a

regional organisation for dealing with cannabis is a significant prerequisite for a successful and unambiguous regional approach, in which the regional coordinator for cannabis (the force's organiser) and the special assignment officers for cannabis ("team leads" in the operation) have central roles.

The section on **implementation** consists of a tactical-operational manual for dismantling cannabis nurseries. It discusses the different processes that are part of the dismantling operation. This manual is provides general guidelines, relying on a professional attitude and common sense.¹ The manual also respects the current practice and concentrates on the critical elements of dismantling cannabis nurseries. For many forces, the manual will result in a relatively straightforward adjustment of their current practice.

The objectives of the strategy for dealing with cannabis cultivation

The Program on Fighting Organised Cannabis Cultivation (PFOCC) has two objectives:

1. To interrupt the normalization process surrounding the cultivation of cannabis.
2. To systematically investigate, combat and reduce the phenomenon of organised cannabis cultivation and trade in its entirety: both in its nature and scope.

¹ "Prescribe rules for people and they will stop thinking". Professor Teun Hardjono, 2004

This is in keeping with the Ministry of Justice' objective: *"Our target is to visibly reduce large-scale cannabis cultivation in the Netherlands by the end of 2011 and to interrupt the normalization process that surrounds the cultivation of cannabis"*.

The cultivation of cannabis (the entire cycle of cultivation, the market and the facilitation) is structured in such a way that the strategy for dealing with the normalization process has to be regarded as a matter of primary importance. Investigation and control, will, wherever possible, reinforce the strategy, and consequently will be more effective on the reduction.

This document concentrates on the second objective and its implementation, hoping for the following results:

- Reduction of (organised) cannabis cultivation
- Optimization of basic policing staff (BPZ) deployment
- Options for continued investigation
- (more) Confiscation of criminal proceeds
- Increased safety of staff involved in the operation
- Reinforced information position and exchange of information
- More and better collaboration with partners
- Sound and incorruptible intervention by all parties involved in the strategy

Main points and subsidiary matters

This document assumes a certain basic understanding of criminal procedure and dealing with cannabis cultivation. This document also discusses the following critical elements:

- Regional coordination
- Information coordination and refinement
- Options for managerial follow-up
- Integrity and working in collaborative partnerships
- Physical danger at the cultivation sites
- Securing carriers of trace evidence
- Registration and confiscation
- Burden of proof pursuant to Article 161 bis of the Dutch Criminal Code
- File compilation
- Available means/tools

This document also contains practical guidelines for both operative professionals (generalists from the basic policing staff) and specific points that require particular attention for specialists (detectives, forensic investigation services staff and staff from the financial investigation services).

How to read this document

Chapter 1 describes the nature of cannabis cultivation at present in the Netherlands, on the level of aims, concentrating on the role of the regional investigation process owner. It also calls attention to another focus, i.e. on the theme of cannabis and the integrity of the operation and provides insights gained from the FinEc and

Intelligence Program in more detail. In addition, it touches on the importance of regional coordination.






tools book is regularly updated and is available on the Police Knowledge Net (PKN).

Chapter 2 focuses on the regional embedding of the strategy for dealing with organised cannabis cultivation, i.e. its organisation. The profiles of the regional coordinator for cannabis (RC-h) and the special assignment officer for cannabis (TA-h) will be discussed in more detail, not forgetting the consequences for the operational management of the basic policing staff (BPZ) and forensic investigation services (FO).

Chapter 3 investigates the implementation, specifically dismantling cannabis nurseries. Firstly, it provides a plan, divided into stages, and then gives the concrete operational support structure for the tasks of the special assignment officers for cannabis, the basic policing staff (BPZ), the staff at the Regional Information Hub (RIK) and the staff from forensic investigation services (FO). In addition, this chapter pays attention to specific safety risks, seizure of carriers of trace evidence and seizures as part of confiscation of profits, homing in on this last subject to identify situations conforming to Article 161 bis of the Dutch Criminal Code.

The appendices to this document contain the details of the various processes that are part of the dismantling operation. A tools book has been written to support this manual. The

Chart 1: Topics described for each post

| | Post: | Topics described in general terms for each post: |
|--|--|--|
|  | Investigation process owner | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focus on dealing with organisations behind cannabis cultivation • Focus on structuring information on organised cannabis cultivation • Focus on confiscation • Focus on collaboration with partners |
|  | Regional Coordinator for Cannabis (RC-h) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enforcement of rules pertaining to safety and integrity • Enforcement of agreements on collaboration • Facilitation for special assignment officers • Interpretation of (criminal) regional developments • Connection of processes of enforcement and investigation. • Contact for RIK, FO and FR • Contact for coordinators from other forces • Providing thematic information for strategic and tactical management |
|  | Special assignment officer For cannabis (TA-h) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Responsible for safety and for uncorrupted dismantling operations at the crime scene • Operational collaboration with partners • Management of confiscation and securing (carriers of) trace evidence • Quality of file |
|  | Basic policing staff (BPZ) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assists the special assignment officer for cannabis at the crime scene • Confiscation • Seizure of trace evidence (carriers) • Writing police reports |
|  | RIK-staff ² FO experts FR experts | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides special assistance • “Help line” for operative staff |

2 RIK = Regional Information Hub. FO = forensic investigation. FR = financial investigation.

| | Ad hoc dismantling operation | | | Scheduled dismantling operation | |
|--|--|---|---|---|--|
| | Report of fire / water damage or caught red-handed | Preparing to enter building | Entering building and dismantling | Preparing information | Briefing |
| Regional coordinator for cannabis (RC-h) | | 'Hulplijn' voor de BPZ | 'Hulplijn' voor de BPZ | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coordinates information with partners Agreements with Public Prosecution Service on seizure | |
| Special assignment officer for cannabis (TA-h) | | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Records grid readings Collects information on nurseries | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complex crime scene execution to staff and assisting staff Assigns duties |
| BPZ staff | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quick scan confirmation nursery and safety for persons Freezing situation and conducting/ ordering readings | Manager of crime scene assumes control of safety | Conclusion, including managerial tasks, after consulting RC-h | | |
| Fraud inspector from Netbeheer Nederland | | Conducts safety readings in case of electrocution | Contract-based execution of dismantling | | |
| Dismantling company staff | | Conducts safety readings for gasses / substances | Contract-based execution of dismantling | | |
| FO staff | | | "help line" for BPZ | | |
| FR staff | | | "help line" for BPZ | | |
| RIK staff | | | "help line" for BPZ | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Processing reports form Stichting M Compilation of standard information files on persons and locations | |
| Incident room | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appoints one manager of crime scene Report to RC-h | | | | |
| Police Officer on Duty (OV-D P) | | | Gives order for entry if necessary | Gives order for entry if necessary | |

| Arrival at location | Entering building | Dismantling | Removal, storage and destruction of drugs and substances | Debriefing | Winding up administrative tasks |
|---|--|--|---|---|---|
| | "help line" for the TA-hw | "help line" for the TA-h | | Inventory of completed dismantling operations | Monitoring lead-time. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Acting as leader at crime scene Reporting commencement of action to MIC and Ovd Reconnaissance of crime scene | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commission locksmith to open the entrance Commission for conducting readings Assessment of data from readings for safety aspects Report of identification of situation conforming to Article 161 bis Dutch Criminal Code Ovd Give order for entry | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supervision on inventory by BPZ Supervision on records by BPZ Supervision on securing carriers of trace evidence by BPZ Management of confiscation Supervision on dismantling operation by staff of dismantling company Supervision on storage of the drugs Management of the seized money and valuable goods Description of status of premises on departure. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organisation of supervision on transport Report end of action to MIC | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Execution Collecting incidents during operation Action evaluation with RC-h | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organisation of compiling file Conclusion of seizure Sending cannabis information message to VV and Netbeheer Nederland Sending notification to suspects |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Safety of the premises and operative staff Recognition as police | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arrest and removal Recording all official acts on available tools/means Description of nursery in DIG or conduct calculations Apply (prejudgment) seizure for evidence and / or confiscation | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supervision on transport Record of transport and storage Observation of actual destruction, recording in police record. | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Question suspects Write police reports |
| Conducting safety readings in case of electrocution | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Actual dismantling Technical identification of 161 bis conforming to Dutch Criminal | Investigation into previous crops and harvests | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Make a police report Report conformation to Article 161 bis Criminal Code |
| Conducting safety readings in case of gasses / substances | Contract-based dismantling operation. | Contract-based dismantling operation | Contract-based execution of transport and storage of cannabis. | | Consultation on operation reports |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> "help line" for the TA-h Investigation into crime scene conforming to 161 bis of the Criminal Code | "help line" for the TA-h | | | |
| | "help line" for the TA-h | "help line" for the TA-h | | | |
| | "help line" for the BPZ | "help line" for the BPZ | | | Processing information from partners |
| | | | | | |
| | Up-scaling to complex crime scene dismantling operation on discovery of situation conforming to Article 161 bis of the Criminal Code | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bringing suspects before the Public Prosecutor Consultation with Public Prosecutor on seizure | | Supervision on destruction of cannabis | |

1. Aims

1.1 Organised cannabis cultivation in the Netherlands

A program-based strategy

The Program Improved Organised Crime is part of the government's broader program "Safety begins with Prevention". Within this framework, initiatives are being developed to tackle organised crime. One new feature in this strategy is the phenomenon of the program-based approach.

In September 2009, in response to questions in Parliament, the Minister of Justice said: *"... Tackling the large-scale cultivation of cannabis is a spearhead in this government's policy and has been given high national priority. This high priority certainly applies to the southern regions of our country too. None of this detracts from the fact that within the prioritised areas of attention, the amount of work may still be greater than the available investigation capacity of the police. We must therefore decide which networks of organised crime must be dealt with first, while considering whether there are sufficient concrete leads for an investigation.*

If a group growing cannabis on a large scale is not selected in a certain year for in-depth investigation into the organisers, it does not mean that this group will be left untouched. If there is any hard evidence of criminal acts, we shall act, on other levels of criminal

*investigation. For instance, should the police discover a grow-house that has been set up by one of these groups, it shall be rounded up. Dealing with it on that level still affects the organisation behind it. Moreover, the organisers can be investigated at a later stage when we have the capacity for it"*³

The context of cannabis cultivation

All too often, the image that many Dutch people have of cannabis cultivation and its corresponding trade is that it is an extremely everyday state of affairs. It is regarded as a logical consequence of supply and demand and not as an illegal activity. This has effected the way in which the police generally organised their strategy for dealing with cannabis nurseries (including the nurseries that grow parent plants, nurseries with cuttings and drying rooms). This approach is particularly centred on public order and safety (reckless endangerment and degradation).

Growing cannabis has, in the course of the years, become a very professional occupation that is almost completely managed by organised crime. Criminal organisations govern the whole chain, from the delivery of the plants and raw materials, negotiating with the builders to the collection of the grown product. The Netherlands is no longer

³ Ministry of Justice, Parliamentary Documents, September 2009, 2009Z14514

dominated by local consumption – it is estimated that more than 80 % of the product is exported. The volume, the growing methods, the endangerment and the criminal context mean that we need to continually examine whether the current methods of intervention are still suitable for dealing with this phenomenon and are still safe for those charged with the intervention. However, the national cultivation and trade have assumed such exorbitant forms (more and more violence and extremely large profits from the crime) that the criminal excesses that occur in the organised form have been given high priority by the 2008 National Crime Threat Assessment.⁴ We need to focus emphatically on its investigation and for this, a strong information position is absolutely essential. The Program on Fighting Organised Cannabis Cultivation (PFOCC), set up as part of the Operation Investigation, was commissioned to bring about a change to the normalization within Dutch society and to reduce the national production of cannabis.

Structural information on the nature, scope and degree of organisation should become available from dismantled nurseries. Strategic partners have observed that “no nursery is completely independent”. In the policing sense, it means that the dismantling processes should in particular be aimed at the identification and recording of information that could lead to an overall view of criminal chains. A full process-based transition, from enforcement to investigation, needs to be achieved.

An increasing number of external partners have a significant part in tackling organisations. As well as government authorities, there are the housing corporations, electricity companies and insurance companies. This approach concentrates on efficient dismantling operations and on the importance of investigating perpetrators and criminal collaborative partnerships behind the cannabis nurseries. The police will have to present their part of the strategy as more consistent than it is at present.

1.2 A structured strategy for dealing with cannabis cultivation based on the main processes

Shifting focus

From gauging the police forces, consultations by PFOCC account managers with leaders and executors, and from

⁴ National Crime Threat Assessment, 2008, The Netherlands Police Agency

field research⁵ by the PFOCC, the impression emerged that dismantling cannabis nurseries is tackled in very different ways by the Dutch police as regards quality. In forces where the operations progress without difficulty, dismantling operations are almost always accompanied by regional coordination. The different instructions in the forces focus on an enforcement scenario (though integral) for tackling the nuisance caused by independent nurseries. This does not do justice to the observation that 80% of those involved repeat the offence. Every dismantled nursery almost certainly results in the establishment of a new growing location. All the parties involved have realised that the actual clearance / eviction of the nurseries is the binding critical process that requires organisational adjustment. This operational manual provides options for securing national agreements on the local strategy. On those grounds, regional and national information exchange really can be achieved. As we have also considered the interests of the investigation, it will be possible to tackle the organisations behind the cultivation of cannabis, when dealing with the nurseries (and to put an end to their operations). The strategy as described in this document aims to organise dismantling operations as contributions to a safer, more efficient and more effective control of (organised)

cannabis cultivation instead of independent operations. This is can be done by means of reinforcing investigation and the prosecution of growers and the criminal organisations behind the nurseries.

The police's role in the management of dismantling operations

Intervention for a dismantling operation has not been the exclusive domain of the police for some time now. Not only are some services called in such, as dismantling companies, locksmiths and so on, staff from other partners such as Dutch Association of Energy Suppliers work with the police at the crime scene. In addition, the nature of the crime scene (hidden places) and the quantity of the actions carried out by several people at once must be considered. If the atmosphere is chaotic chances are t that mistakes will be made, matters will escape notice and cause tension concerning integrity. Normalization, "what are we so worried about?" has taken root in police organisations and has detrimental consequences for the method of execution.

When cannabis nurseries are dismantled, the police often work with various public partners such as the municipal authorities, the Tax Administration etc., sometimes on the basis of covenants. Both public and private partners have said that the police (staff) are not showing sufficient commitment to the agreements made on this subject.

5 Various forces have held clearing days since February 2009.

As those involved must also deal with drugs and the proceeds of crime, we need stringent management during an intervention. The manager's role is emphatically assigned to the police.

This requires that we pay particular attention to:

- The physical safety of every person involved in the execution of the dismantling process.
- Working closely at the location with various facilitating branches (the dismantling company, the locksmith, etc.)
- The integrity of:
 - Persons (handling drugs and other seized goods)
 - Agreements on the process (expectations of the partners regarding the information)
- The balance between adhering to the police processes of enforcement and investigation.
- Confiscation in connection to cannabis cultivation are ratified too rarely or not at all by the Courts' decisions.
- The construction of a tailor-made information process.

Focus on integrity of the operation

The police bear the final responsibility for the entire operation. Field research and reports from all parts of the country reveal that incidents occur during and after dismantling operations: theft of money at the crime scene, unsupervised transports of cannabis

tips, theft of cannabis tips etc, and this number is growing. Incidents during an operation managed by the police create the risk of damage to the investigation and to the image of the police. Risks of corruption must be dealt with as far in advance as possible. If necessary, the consequences should be that the work is (temporarily) put to a stop and only resumed after adjustments. Handling drugs must be done in a closed system (under continual supervision, from clearance to destruction), while the TA-h (special assignment officer for cannabis during the operation) and the RC-h (regional coordinator for cannabis) have significant roles in the organisation. After consulting the Police Academy of the Netherlands, these various aspects have been incorporated in a program for the special assignment officers for cannabis, consisting of a theoretical and a practical part. We also recommend that attention is paid to specific aspects as part of integral professional skills courses.

Focus on the criminal "odd-job man"

Until now, criminal organisations involved in cannabis cultivation were dealt with on the grounds of the "CSV" approach (criminal collaborative partnerships). This approach, as it has been described in this schedule, anticipates organisational structures that have been discovered in reality. Organisations use various sorts of "tradesmen" who are responsible for several installations. For now, we can

identify: the joiner, the plumber, the electrician and the security guard. They all earn large amounts of money by working in the cannabis branch. They have relatively short lines of communication with the “directors” in the organisation. Investigation at the crime scene offers options for tracing these auxiliary tradesmen.

The importance of regional coordination

It is essential, if we want to deal with organised cannabis cultivation properly, that the police forces acquire expertise on the entire process concerning cannabis, from tracing and dismantling the cannabis plantations to tracing and arresting the criminals behind organised cannabis cultivation. This expertise must be anchored in the police regions by appointing a regional coordinator for cannabis (RC-h). The RC-h will “lend” his expertise within the region. This coordinator is to be the specialist and walking encyclopaedia for the regional as regards everything involving the cannabis strategy and is the first point of contact in the police force, for both internal and external parties.

Several studies into organised cannabis production have revealed that the organisations do not stop at the borders of the region. Information on subjects and nurseries is trans-regional and must be collected and distributed adequately and professionally. When the regional coordinator for cannabis (RC-h) is appointed,

a national network can and will be created that allows supra-regional knowledge to be shared.

The national character could be created by a theme coordinator at IPOL [the Department of International Police Information], so that, once a national image has been created, the necessary proposals could be submitted for supra-regional or national investigations (BRs and NR).

The strategy for dealing with organised cannabis cultivation requires strong management based on intelligence and professional knowledge, so that a selection process can be created for structural criminal investigations into organised crime. Coordination of operations is also necessary to produce a clear image of the scope of organised cannabis cultivation in the Netherlands and its interrelations with organised crime. The RC-h can only fulfil his task if he is capacitated to supervise the special assignment officers for cannabis (TA-h's) on the quality as regards the execution of the tasks. As a result, the TA-h's are an extension of the regional cannabis coordinator as regards quality. They will be able to build up their expertise by regularly dismantling cannabis nurseries, and consequently produce a comprehensive strategy for dealing with organised cannabis cultivation. The structural, close collaboration between the RC-h, the TA-h's, the RIK and the partners in the chain such as the

municipal authorities, the Tax Administration, insurance companies, electricity companies and housing corporation will enable targets, such those set by the PFOCC, to be achieved both on a regional and a national level.

Because an RC-h is to be appointed to every region, a national network can be built based on the NND-network. The strategy for dealing with organised cannabis cultivation will become more professional due to the exchange of information and “best practices”.

Insights gained from the FinEc program

Much money acquired from crime is eventually laundered in the world of legitimate businesses. This can only happen if people such as lawyers, bank staff, civil-notaries, assessors and estate agents consciously contribute to its facilitation. This means that crime does pay. A much worse consequence is that people may lose faith in financial institutions: the integrity of our financial system may be undermined.

We are not just dealing with the “big boys”. This also involves the perception that the man in the street has, who, resigned to seeing the miserable little thug from his own neighbourhood driving around in a huge new Mercedes without visibly ever doing a day’s work, toils at his mundane job. He picks up the signal that guys with regular nine-to-five jobs are not rewarded though you can easily buy a nice car if you are involved in (petty) crime.

The police are becoming increasingly aware that confiscating financial profits deals a nasty blow to criminals. Money is often the initial motive for the crime. Moreover, it is evident that criminal organisations leave financial traces along which the police can track down a criminal and a crime. This approach is based on standard calculations of profits from crime, made on site and immediately followed by the seizure of the money and goods. To do this, assistance at the site is necessary, such as the use of the system DIG. Seizure becomes the police’ core business, providing a safeguard for the seizure of valuable goods on the spot.

Confiscating profits from crime has the following objectives:

- To show that crime does not pay.
- To show that, by means of improving financial investigation, investigations can be improved as regards both quality and quantity.
- To take away the financial means to install new nurseries.
- To prove that (more and better) financial investigation contributes to more safety and to more faith in our financial-economic system.
- To prove that the police are a reliable partner for public and private chain partners as regards financial-economic crime.
- To put the Tax Administration in a position to fulfil its own role in the cannabis crime strategy.

Enabling the Tax Administration to tackle the proceeds of crime is a form of follow-up action after the police investigation. The Tax Administration concentrates on whatever remains after it has been removed from the traffic and impounded and seized. The parties involved must pay tax on the proceeds of crime. The Tax Administration requires similar information to that which is needed for the seizure. This increases the importance of adequate registration by the police during the dismantling operations.

Insights gained from the Intelligence program

The Dutch police have the ambition to deal with safety themes on the basis of intelligence (the Intelligence program). Furthermore, where possible, the police want to improve their efficiency from a financial point of view in investigation and increase the chances of catching the criminals (the FinEc program). A national theme with high priority is the strategy for dealing with organised crime in connection to cannabis nurseries. As we said earlier, it has emerged from various studies that almost no nursery is completely independent and usually, the nurseries have links to organised crime. The quality of the dismantling moments of cannabis nurseries needs to be improved so that the police become more effective in their approach to the organised crime behind the nurseries. We can distinguish three stages:

- The preparation.
- The dismantling operation.
- Conclusion after the dismantling operation.

When explaining the role of the RIK, the actual minimum requirements shall be described for each part, to provide content to the information process within the police force in question. It is a minimum selection, enabling the information to be used optimally, not only for the dismantling operation itself, but also to acquire more and more insight into the organised crime behind the nurseries on a regional and national level.

Within the information process, more and more often, a classification system is used that classifies safety information products on the basis of the LOODS model (LOODS stands for: Location, Circumstances (MO), Object (loot), Perpetrator(s), Victim(s)). For the stackability of information, including in the future, we shall use this classification in this manual. In addition, we shall describe an elementary standardisation, based on the Intelligence program, of intelligence products.⁶ These too have been incorporated in this manual and applied to the organised cannabis strategy.

Cannabis Information Coordination

The strategy for dealing with organised cannabis cultivation demands coordination of the information process.

⁶ Please refer to the document produced by the National Intelligence Model product working group from January 2010

We recommend that a regional information coordinator for cannabis is appointed to each police force, as well as the RC-h. We can mention a few important reasons for this advice:

- a. There will be continual attention for all informative aspects of organised cannabis cultivation.
- b. As a partner of the regional of coordinator for cannabis, the information coordinator can ensure that information process is better secured, and the management of intelligence will be better (informed management).
- c. In conjunction with the information coordinators from the other police, the intended standardisation of methods and products can be achieved (informed management).

During the dismantling operation, an information officer should be attached to the operation as an “information help line”. This colleague will not only provide assistance during dismantling operations, he can also explain the informative accents again if necessary.

To guarantee the aforementioned recommendations, there must be sufficient analysis capacity the day after the dismantling operation so that the information from the executed dismantling operation can be refined in more detail for the investigation process.

Organisation of the Forensic Investigation approach

Until now, cannabis nurseries have not, as standard feature, been examined for forensic trace evidence. As a rule, the prescribed approach, anticipating an HVC “Higit Volume Crime” execution by the basic policing staff (BPZ) and on the basis of experience, is intended to secure and confiscate specific carriers of trace evidence by the basic policing staff (BPZ). Clear and definite direction at the scene of the crime (analogous to the Crime Scene management) by the special assignment officer for cannabis is essential at this point. As an exception, the forensic investigation services staff at the scene shall carry out the trace evidence investigation.

Critical prerequisites

The responsibility for the tasks mentioned in this chapter should be assigned to specific officers in the police agency. The most important roles should be assigned to the investigation process owner, the regional coordinator for cannabis (RC-h) and the special assignment officer for cannabis (TA-h). The investigation process owner will be expected to constantly call the attention to the basic principles of the strategy for dealing with (organised) cannabis cultivation within the police force management. Accordingly, the following critical prerequisites are important:

| What | Why | Who |
|--|---|---|
| Integrity in the execution | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dealing with “soft’ drugs” and criminal capital is all too often accompanied by incidents, from mislaying to theft of goods/money. • To stop the normalization process surrounding cannabis with the police and their auxiliary partners. | RC-h TA-h |
| Working safely at the crime scene | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working at a potentially dangerous crime scene. • Making use of the services of fraud inspectors from Dutch Association of Energy Suppliers. | RC-h TA-h |
| File compilation | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evidence and options for confiscation depend on a good-quality file | TA-h BPZ |
| Confiscation of illegally gained profits | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To as standard feature, study the options for confiscation at the location, which will require tools such DIG and adjustments to BVH. • Record of possession elements is also important for prosecution options for the Tax Administration. | TA-h Information from FinEc program BPZ |
| Up-scaling from enforcement to investigation process | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complex crime scene (arising from current investigation if situation conforms to Article 161 bis of the Criminal Code) should be placed under the investigation process. The necessary evidence usually surpasses the competences of the enforcement process. | Regional Process Owner RC-h TA-h |
| Task of the Regional Information Hub (RIK) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information coordination and processing per theme at the RIK. • RIK is the central regional information point for the staff. • RIK is the central processing point for information from partners. | Regional Process Owner RC-h Insights from the Intelligence program |
| Appointment of regional coordinator for cannabis | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For the regional coordination of the cannabis theme. • Reports to the regional investigation process owner for cannabis. • Provides (regional) insight into the nature and scope. He makes use of the RIK. • Is the primary point of contact for the collaborating internal and external partners. | Regional Process Owner |
| Relations management with Netbeheer Nederland | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A fraud inspector from Dutch Association of Energy Suppliers from a electricity company is present at dismantling operation as a standard feature. • The inspector carries out his own (safety) work but also supports the special assignment officer when assessing the endangerment from the electrical installation. He can point out any circumstances that conform to Article 161 bis of the Criminal Code. That could mean up scaling to an investigation process. | RC-h RC-h |
| Relations with public and private partners | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An increasing number of public and private partners are participating in the strategy for dealing with organised cannabis cultivation. Covenants are drawn up for this purpose. • Agreements should be secured in the execution of the dismantling operation. | Regional Process Owner RC-h |
| Protection of carriers of trace evidence | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Traces bear evidence of the involvement of persons and can reveal relationships. As a standard feature, carriers of DNA and fingerprint traces should be seized at the crime scene. • It can be decided to relay them to the NFI later in the process. | RC-h TA-h Basic policing staff |

2. Organisation

As regards organisation, we shall discuss two types of dismantling operation and the roles of the regional coordinator for cannabis (RC-h) and the special assignment officer for cannabis (TA-h). The tasks and responsibilities of these officers shall be presented in a schematic profile.

2.1 Two types of dismantling operations

The structural approach we advocate for tackling (organised) cannabis cultivation means that the actual dismantling operation of cannabis nurseries can be divided into two types. The majority of the dismantling operations will be conducted in a standard way, hereinafter called volume dismantling operations. However, criminal investigations into organised cannabis cultivation may provide reasons for more extensive investigation during dismantling operations, to study and reveal connections between nurseries. Furthermore, a situation conforming to Article 161 bis of the Dutch Criminal Code may also provide occasion for more exhaustive investigation. In these cases, we can speak of complex crime scene dismantling operations (customized approach). Chapter 3 discusses which of the (extensive) procedures should be followed. Dismantling operations of cannabis nurseries can be classified as:

Volume dismantling operations

These are scheduled dismantling operations that, in theory, are fully or partially

managed by the basic policing staff (BPZ). During these types of dismantling operations, the assessments carried out at the time may lead to the up scaling to a complex crime scene dismantling operation.

Complex crime scene dismantling operations

These dismantling operations are initiated as part of a current criminal investigation, or the situation is deemed to conform to Article 161 bis of the Dutch Criminal Code during a volume dismantling operation. Here, the investigation has precedence.

2.2 The regional coordinator for cannabis

The regional coordinator for cannabis (RC-h) is the point of contact within the region for both the **internal and external partners**. He delegates the collection, refinement and analysis of information on cannabis to the RIK (regional information hub). In addition, basic police teams, with the special assignment officers for cannabis (TA-h's), may also be considered as internal partners, the CIE (Criminal Intelligence Unit) and the Crime departments. External partners could be FIOD (the Fiscal Information and Intelligence Service, the Tax Administration, BOOM (the Public Prosecution Service's Criminal Assets Deprivation Bureau), RIEC (the Regional Information and Expertise Centre), the Social Security Fraud Department, the municipal authorities, the Public

Prosecution Service, insurance companies, electricity companies and dismantling companies. It is essential that there is a fixed point of contact in the region for all these parties for matters related to cannabis.

The basic principle to work from during dismantling operations is the confiscation of illegal gained profits and unusual possession (420 bis of the Dutch Criminal Code). The RC-h supports, advises and directs the special assignment officers for cannabis (TA-h's) in the financial approach. Consequently, it is important to have a solid network (information exchange) with the aforementioned external partners. By building solid collaborative partnerships, the RC-h can provide a more structured, informed approach to the issue of cannabis. The RC-h is abreast of the national developments concerning the cannabis strategy and will implement them as necessary in the region.

The RC-h is to ensure that everyone in the region works with the validated protocols, which will reinforce the information position of the dismantling operations, but certainly of the networks connected to them and the operation of this form of crime as well. Due to the knowledge acquired from this, the RC-h can and must provide information, whether it is requested or not, to the intervention teams who are conducting investigations into organised cannabis cultivation. The RC-h is responsible for

a good quality improvement of the strategy for dealing with organised cannabis cultivation by securing the knowledge of, and intelligence on, the cannabis theme. He is the “**driving force**” of the region in the approach to cannabis matters. Within the region, the RC-h has a functional relationship with the special assignment officers for cannabis (TA-h). The RC-h can make sure that the colleagues in the districts and teams of the region are educated in “**best practices**”. The RC-h is also responsible for the quality of the dismantling operation process of the cannabis nurseries; he steers it towards ensuring the quality of the output.

The RC-h performs his tasks in the region under the responsibility of the regional investigation process owner. The RC-h is fully exempt from the fulfilment of this task.

Profile for the regional coordinator for cannabis

| Job demarcation | Responsibility | Particulars |
|--|--|---|
| 1. Account | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reports on tactical developments to the investigation process owner • Reports on developments to Regional Executive Board and makes proposals • Periodic case meetings with Public Prosecutor • Informs and enthuses colleagues throughout the force • Reports on the TA-h's results • Reports periodically on the threats to, and incidents concerning, integrity and incidents to the investigation process owner | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secures the relations in the organised cannabis strategy between enforcement and investigation • Contributes to many critical processes. |
| 2. Analysis (regional) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initiates BRI analysis • Searches actively for clusters among cannabis nurseries for trace evidence processing by FO • Research into and registration of (specific) methods of growing • Initiates pre-decisional documents • Draws up barrier proposals | Particular focus on theme-specific elements. |
| 3. Relationship management | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinates regional approach to dismantling operations • Organises exchange of knowledge between TA-h's • Periodic instruction on new developments | |
| 4. Safe dismantling operation | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keeps knowledge on hazardous substances and situations up-to-date • Makes arrangements with, and supervises, auxiliary staff • Instructs TA-h's • Facilitates tools / means • Supervises collaboration with fraud inspectors from Dutch Association of Energy Suppliers • Supervises contract arrangements with dismantling companies | |
| 5. Integrity of all collaborative operational parties during the dismantling operation process | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draws up agreements with the auxiliary services • Organises the supervision of the staff of the dismantling companies • Implements corrective measures for auxiliary services • Organises supervision of seized cannabis • Organises supervision on transport and destruction of cannabis • Organises registration and management of seized possession elements | |
| 6. Arrangement with supporting parties | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contact (first point of contact) for all chain partners (on the basis of agreed covenants) and businesses • Regional direction of "volume dismantling operations" • Arranges prices with dismantling companies (until a national regulation comes into effect) • Organises the deployment of FR staff on the basis of police force and Public Prosecutor's Office's targets • Organises the processing of carriers of trace evidence by the FO | |

Profile for regional coordinator for cannabis (continued)

| Job demarcation | Responsibility | Particulars |
|-----------------------------------|--|--|
| 7. Securing expertise | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge agent • Providing validated tools/means • Keeping the TA-h's thematic knowledge up-to-date • Informer for the TA-h's assessment and performance reviews • Periodically instructing the TA-h's on the developments and regional/ national agreements • Sharing experiences of dismantling operations • Setting up a "help line" for operative parties during dismantling operations | <p>The national network of RC-hs and the contact at IPOL (the Department of International Police Information) are potentially the expert group for the cannabis theme. Besides sharing knowledge and intelligence, they support each other during interventions. Another responsibility is supporting the national portfolio holder for cannabis in progress (both of the process and the results) and strategy.</p> |
| 8. Stimulating confiscations | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Making policy agreements with the Public Prosecutor's Office | |
| 9. Directing the quality of files | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultation with TA-h's • Consultation with Public Prosecutor's Office | |
| 10. Interregional | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contact for the program • Member of the National Network Drugs (NND) | |
| 11. Collaboration | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation in (inter)regional theme meetings with other RC-hs | |

2.3 Special assignment officer for cannabis

A cannabis nursery is a potentially dangerous crime scene due to the dangers of electrocution, gasses, substances and the organised crime context and consequently, the prevention of incidents should be given priority. For that reason, analogous to the crime scene management, the operations at the crime scene should be led only by one person, the special assignment officer for cannabis (TA-h).⁷

The TA-h is team lead. He is responsible for the briefing, execution and debriefing. He prepares the dismantling operations using the information packages from the RIK. At the site, he directs, focusing on safety, the quality of the operation and the registration, The RC-h is his first point of contact for the quality of the deployment.

The TA-h is always present at dismantling operations; he pays explicit attention to endangerment when planning and briefing. The TA-H is responsible for ensuring the safest possible execution and to do so, he makes use of the services of the fraud inspector from Netbeheer Nederland. He is responsible for conducting readings for gasses, by the police, or optionally, by the

dismantling companies. At every dismantling operation, the readings must be conducted before a building or room may be entered. This also applies to the deployment of Regional Support Group, etc.

The TA-supervises the use of:

- Measuring equipment
- Masks, gloves, safety goggles
- General safe work, including communications with the incident room.

This officer must treat the critical safety aspects timely and step-by-step. He should make agreements about the tasks, responsibilities and authority. The TA-h must wear a jacket with a text specifically for easy recognition.

⁷ Police officers who pay special attention to cannabis cultivation and the execution of dismantling operations in a demarcated area, also known as: areas of specific attention, premises coordinator, location coordinator, building / safety coordinator

Profile for special assignment officer for cannabis

| Job demarcation | Responsibility | Particulars |
|--|---|---|
| 1. Account | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reports to regional coordinator for cannabis (RC-h) on results • Reports to RC-h on any incidents during the execution | |
| 2. Analysis (regional) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contributing proposals for analysis • Actively searching for clusters of cannabis nurseries | |
| 3. Directs the execution | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides the briefing • Assigns tasks • Gives permission to enter the crime scene • Supervises the execution by dismantling companies • Initiates the up-scaling to complex crime scene dismantling operation (after consulting the Public Prosecutor/RC-h) • Coordinates the confiscation • Coordinates the securing of carriers of trace evidence | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TA-h decides when the crime scene can be safely entered in all reasonableness. |
| 4. Safe dismantling operation | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Directs all staff about the method of dismantling operation • Organises the conducting of readings at the crime scene as regards the threat of electrocution, hazardous gasses and liquids • Determines "safe to enter". • Stops dismantling operation in the event of reasonable suspicion of danger. • Keeps his knowledge of hazardous substances and situations up to date | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Directs not only colleagues but staff from dismantling companies as regards safety too. |
| 5. Integrity of all collaborative operative parties during the entire process of the dismantling operation | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (organises) Supervision on removal of plants • (organises) Supervision on registration of plants and seizure • (organises) Supervision op administrative conclusion by dismantling company • If he suspects problems concerning integrity, he freezes the situation and coordinates the action with the Officer on Duty and the RC-h. • Responsible for management of discovered/seized money and valuable goods. | |
| 6. Maintaining agreements with auxiliary parties | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supervises deployment of collaborative partners in accordance with the agreed covenants • Organises the "volume dismantling operations" • Plans the deployment of dismantling companies • Plans the reserved deployments of FR staff | |
| 7. Secures expertise | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keeps knowledge up-to-date • Uses validated tools/means • Shares experiences of dismantling operations • Uses the RC-h "help line" | |
| 8. Stimulates confiscation | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Executes or supervises seizure • Organises tools | |
| 9. Steers towards good quality of files | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Direction of use of tools/means • Consults Public Prosecutor's Office about file | |
| 10. Regional collaboration | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Periodic meetings with other TA-h's | |

2.4 Consequences for the operational management of basic policing staff (BPZ) and Forensic Investigation services

The core of the proposed execution is that the deployed staff (BPZ) shifts from supervising the intervention to actively taking part in the seizure of carriers of trace evidence.

- The action "seizure" is not expected to require any additional deployment.
- The administration of the seizure in the BVH will consume the Basic Policing Staff's time.
- Determining the tactical relevance requires capable TA-h's and RC-h.
- Determining the FO relevance of trace evidence, and transferring the trace evidence in question to the NFI requires a capable trace evidence coordinator.
- Examining the trace evidence requires capable NFI staff.
- Reading significance into matches requires capable TA-h's, RC-h and trace evidence coordinators.

Assuming that, for each dismantling operation, five to ten traces will be relevant, the workload after registration in BVH should involve approximately 25,000 to 50,000 traces. Although the police forces say that trace evidence for forensic investigation is secured and processed, we assume that the proposed method should give rise to 20,000 to 40,000 additional actions as regards trace evidence for forensic

investigation, which is approximately 8 pieces of conclusive evidence) per working day for an average forensic investigation department.

On the other hand, the organised cannabis cultivation, in the immediate and indirect sense (eliminations, kidnappings and grievous bodily harm) already cause for large amounts of extra work for the forensic investigation process in large parts of the country. If the deployment of forensic investigation were to lead to more solved cases, it would be an advantage, in balance.

Forensic investigation staff are intensively occupied with all constructional elements of cannabis nurseries. Cannabis nurseries must be regarded on standard as potentially dangerous crime scenes; threats of electrocution, hazardous gasses and substances and the organised crime context force the operations to be structured, not just for the police officers, but for everyone working at the location. The standard presence and cooperation of qualified fraud inspectors from Netbeheer Nederland will result in joint action but also demands stringent work agreements. The fraud inspectors will also have a significant part in identifying situations as being cases conforming to 161 bis of the Dutch Criminal Code to which the police can adjust their deployment (up-scaling from enforcement to investigation). Please also see the explanation of 161 bis-situations in the chart in chapter 3.

3. Implementation

When implementing the strategy, we must pay particular attention to a number of practical and concrete operational auxiliary structures, including a chronological step-by-step plan, a detailed look at specific safety risks and the seizure of carriers of trace evidence as part of the confiscation of profits. When discussing this last topic, we shall focus more specifically on the identification of the situations that are conform to Article 161 bis of the Dutch Criminal Code. These auxiliary structures are particularly intended for the special assignment officers for cannabis and the basic policing staff (BPZ) for the performance of their tasks (dealing with organised cannabis cultivation). Furthermore, this chapter shall discuss the role of the staff at the RIK (Regional Information Hub) and FO (forensic investigation).

3.1 Step-by-step plan

1. Arrival

Point in the operation:

Briefing

Danger:

The action could be seen by the suspects as a “rip deal” attempt, disturbance of the peace in risky areas or neighbourhoods.

Action:

1. Police recognizability
2. Capacity based on risk analysis (RIK)
3. Moment of arrival of auxiliary parties

is decided.

4. Action is reported to Officer on Duty of the police.

2. Reconnaissance of the building

Point in the operation:

the TA-h checks out the building on the outside (if necessary, with others/ experts).

Danger:

Security measures, counter-observation, behaviour of suspects.

Action:

1. Recognizability of the police
2. Quick response to changing situations
3. Signal for “start the action”

3. The building's security

Point in the operation:

Shortly after the arrival of the TA-h.

Danger:

Destruction of the trace evidence by police/joint action, investigation operations are known to the media.

Action:

Attention to bystanders (as with fire), observation of the surroundings by “back-up vehicle”.

4. Opening the door

Point in the operation:

For entering the building for the actual dismantling

Danger:

Electrocution

Action:

1. TA-h commissions fraud inspector from Netbeheer Nederland.
2. Fraud inspector checks the door for electricity, then the police enter.

5. Entering the building**Point in the operation:**

Gauge for the presence of hazardous substances / gasses.

Danger:

Electrocution; confrontation with hazardous substances from the cultivation process.

Action:

1. The TA-h takes readings or orders readings to be taken for the presence of hazardous substances/gasses. Depending on the situation: room by room or all at once.
2. Once in the building, the fraud inspector inspects the electrical installation, identifies hazardous situations and eliminates them where possible. He reports to the TA-h to say whether there is any danger, whether it conforms to Article 161 bis of the Dutch Criminal Code or whether the room is safe to enter as far as electricity is concerned.
3. The fraud inspector ensures a safe working environment for the actual dismantling operation and reports the status to the TA-h.

4. The TA-h and the coordinator from the dismantling company conduct a Last Minute Risk Analysis (LMRA).
5. The TA-h halts the operation if there is any evidence of danger and consults the Officer on Duty of the police.
6. The TA-h gives the order to enter the cannabis nursery for the actual dismantling.

6. Arrest of suspects**Point in the operation**

After entry, persons may be discovered.

Danger:

safety of staff

Action:

Persons present are arrested as suspects and fitting measures are taken in accordance with the Dutch Code of Criminal Procedure and the Dutch Opium Act.

7. Removal of drugs and substances**Point in the operation:**

Destruction on site or temporary storage of the seized cannabis plants and hazardous substances.

Danger:

Contact with hazardous substances, losing cannabis, theft of cannabis during transport

Action:

1. Actions involving these substances remain the exclusive task of the dismantling company

2. The TA-h arranges supervision
3. Everyone on site wears a mouth cap
4. The transport of the cannabis plants is supervised by police staff.
5. Incidents can be reported immediately to the TA-h and may result in halting the transport.
6. Storage of the cannabis plants pending destruction occurs in properly sealed rooms with suitable permanent supervision.

8. Leaving the building

Moment in the operation:

After dismantling the cannabis nursery, the building is left in good condition.

Danger:

Financial claim by the owner or tenant of the building.

Action:

1. The TA-h registers the condition of the building in writing after dismantling the nursery.
2. The TA-h makes sure that the lock is replaced by the dismantling company.
3. Written information is left if no owner or tenant of the building has been found.

9. Destruction of drugs and substances

Point in the operation:

Actual destruction of the cannabis plants.

Danger:

None

Action:

Making sure that the actual destruction can be observed.

10. Briefing and Debriefing

Moment in the operation:

After dismantling the nursery.

Danger:

None

Action:

1. The TA-h is responsible for briefing and debriefing. The presence of all staff who are to be deployed and all staff who have been deployed is essential. All incidents must be discussed at the debriefing.
2. With the exception of the fraud inspector from Dutch Association of Energy Suppliers, all other external auxiliary parties are briefed by the TA-h shortly after about the locations.
3. The TA-h ensures that the operation is signed off with the Officer of Duty of the police.

11. Integrity

Point in the operation:

During the entire dismantling operation.

Danger:

Breaches of integrity.

Action:

1. The TA-h has the final responsibility for incorruptible action from everyone who

has a part in the dismantling operation. In the event of incidents in this regard, he halts the operation and reports it to the Officer on Duty of the police, who may decide, if necessary after consulting the RC-h, on the progress. The TA-h always reports incidents to the RC-h.

2. During the intervention, the number of officers present is reduced to a minimum. Only persons with a task have access to the location.

3.2 Basic policing staff (BPZ)

Two points of inception

This strategy can be initiated at two points:

- The scheduled dismantling operations, if necessary, as part of “clearing day” with good preparation.
- The ad hoc dismantling operation, usually accompanied by fire and water damage.

Basic principle

The TA-h gives the order for entering the cannabis nursery for dismantling.

Dealing with safety risks at the crime scene

Cannabis nurseries are potentially dangerous crime scenes.

The danger may be divided into four main groups:

1. Electrocution. This could be a consequence of the installation, but it may also be due to the security of the grow house (booby traps).

2. Substances
 - Liquid, including acidic ones
 - Gases, such as CO₂
3. Persons
 - Suspects, as part of the security
 - Bystanders / witnesses, within the framework of disturbance of the peace
 - Guarantees of the integrity of the executive parties are discussed elsewhere
4. (Constructional) facilities of the buildings such as physical barriers in front of the entrance or the construction (underground, etc.), booby traps, etc.

Any hazardous substances that are discovered must always be tested for offences conforming to the Dutch Criminal Code, whereby special attention should be paid to anything that is covered by Article 161 bis the Dutch Criminal Code because if it is identified as such, the investigation process must launch a criminal investigation. The TA-h is informed of this by the fraud inspector, after which the TA-h should consult the Officer on Duty of the police.

Basic policing staff (BPZ) instructions

Securing and seizing the carriers of trace evidence is primarily the task of the basic policing staff. We have set it out in more detail in the chart below, including the investigation and seizure of illegally gained profits.

Seizure of carriers of trace evidence by basic policing staff and the ensuing investigation

| What attention | How | Why | Pay particular |
|--|--|--|--|
| 1. look for trace evidence at the crime scene | <p>Look for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carriers of trace evidence that is immediately obvious. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To prove involvement of criminal organisation and to identify the roles of its members. • For more options of confiscation. | Limits to the use of means of coercion. |
| 2. take photographs and write descriptions | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describe the layout • Take photographs of the situation • Look for growing schedules • Look for notes / instructions | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Needed for questioning about the organisation and to prove previous harvests | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evidence of earlier harvests (remains of plants, colour of the carbon filters) |
| 3. seizure and storage of carriers of trace evidence and DNA samples of suspects | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secure carriers of DNA traces by means of HVC method. • Pack fingerprint carriers into suitable plastic bags or containers. • Secure the lid of the electricity meter and seal it • Register the seizure of the "goods" in BVH • In ACTION G-311 BVH, a buccal mouth swab by the qualified officer for a DNA study can be justified. • Carriers of trace evidence are deposited with FO | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paper bags may destroy fingerprint traces. • Evidence is annulled if it is contaminated. • The importance of mouth swabs from suspects is partly based on the seizure of the carriers of DNA trace evidence. | <p>DNA:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cigarettes stubs (preferably undamaged); chewing gum, blood, cans/bottles <p>Fingerprints:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Packaging material; papers; lid of meter cupboard <p>Data carriers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GSM; Computer (parts); CDs and DVDs <p>Traces of tools: lid of meter cupboard</p> |
| 4. Determine tactical relevance of the secured carriers of trace evidence (such as the suspicion of cluster for the overall view) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RC-h or TA-h who is carrying out the dismantling must determine whether there is a possibility of clusters. • Select the traces of supposed clusters. • Do not send on all trace evidence. • Extra test for usability of trace evidence. | | |
| 5. Selection of the trace evidence for more detailed investigation at FO or the NFI on the grounds of their relevance for forensic investigation | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FO-staff do a test on the forensic quality of the trace evidence before it is examined by the FO or offered to the NFI • Test for breach of processing rules at the ibn (contamination) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trace evidence of poor quality is removed from the processing. • Chances of a match of good quality increase. • Effective and efficient deployment of the (partners in the) investigation chain. | |

Seizure of carriers of trace evidence by basic policing staff and the ensuing investigation (continued)

| What attention | How | Why | Pay particular |
|---|---|---|---|
| 6. Examine trace evidence or offer it to the NFI | Trace evidence coordinator <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Starts procedure for examination of carrier of trace evidence at FO or • FO sends carriers of trace evidence to the NFI | | |
| 7. Tactical relevance to matches of the NFI that refer to possible clusters | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trace evidence coordinator reports match (cluster or person) to RC-h. • RC-h notifies TA-h in question. • Test for current cannabis investigations. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To determine whether follow-up investigation is necessary. • To draw up pre-decisional document • RC-h reports the developments to Chief Constable, DC and the regional steering group. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matches also have relevance for confiscation. |

Investigation, seizure and confiscation of “illegally gained profits’ by basic policing staff

| What | How | Why | Pay particular attention |
|----------------|--|--|--|
| 1. Preparation | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refine information • Municipal Personal Records database (natural persons) (natural persons), Chamber of Commerce (legal entities), Drivers and Vehicle Licensing Agency • Record relations between suspect • Blue View, CIE, Tax Administration, financial institutes etc. • BOOM (seizure management/vermogenstracering [058-2341174]) for support • Coordination with Public Prosecution Service) • Coordination with DRZ (for assaying and transport) • Compose information package • Land registry/mortgage registry extracts • Information on inhabitants /users of building • Extract from Chamber of Commerce for business premises • RDW-name registration of crafts and vehicles • Form for intended seizure by BOOM | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To take suitable preparative measures • To test case against OM policy in advance • To gain insight in advance of capital and/or assets for seizure • Suspect’s relationships provide options for next to third parties issuing garnishment order | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To endangerment/safety • Property • Capital / assets • Replevin (94 Code of Criminal Procedure) • Prejudgment garnishment (94a Code of Criminal Procedure • Accounts • Memory carriers in broad sense including IPod) • Name registration other than suspect(s) |
| 2. Briefing | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide scheme for confiscation • Provide checklist • Inform search team and direct to financial aspects during search • Direct to application of seizure in accordance with el 94 Code of Criminal Procedure (replevin) • Direct to seizure of valuables • Direct to seizure of accounts memory carriers in broad sense • Assign commission ibn in person • Provide support (ex. BOOM and DRZ) (for advice on valuables) • Explain schedules in winding up transport, storage, etc. • Provide “help line” to BFR | <p>Focus on</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confiscation of profits • Assets • Indicators of previous crop • Support for furnishing evidence | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Valuables • Accounts • Memory carriers • Role of BFER • Role of BOOM • Role of DRZ |

Investigation, seizure and confiscation of “illegally gained profits’ by basic policing staff (continued)

| What | How | Why | Pay particular attention |
|----------------|---|---|---|
| 3. Dismantling | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigation into earlier harvests complete checklist - Use list of indicators for identifying earlier harvest(s) - Use database of seized goods (DIG) - Determine/calculate provisionally illegally gained profits (estimate of yield) - Where possible, seized goods for establishing the truth and validated seizure (Article 94 of the Code of Criminal Procedure - Submit unforeseeable facts/matters to (Chief) Public Prosecutor for orally given orders | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To apply Article 94 of the Code of Criminal Procedure is an independent competence • Seizure is convincing evidence for a criminal case and for the reality of criminal profits. • Suspects cannot hide property. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When in doubt of the value/suitability of goods use the help line with BFR. • Consult BOOM seizure coordination (+3158-2341173 Knobbe) |
| 4. Debriefing | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discuss search • Record particulars • 1st inventory of seized goods (SR and CB) • Check papers • Transfer goods | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distinguish between seizure for establishing the truth and for confiscation • Rule out risks • Secure legal evidence • Secure correct registration • Assign tasks for follow-up investigation • Report remaining information | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish the truth • Risks (ex. Always 2 people to count money!) • Immediately store valuables (such as jewellery) in a safe • Transfer other matters to (chief) Public Prosecutor or BOOM a.s.a.p. |

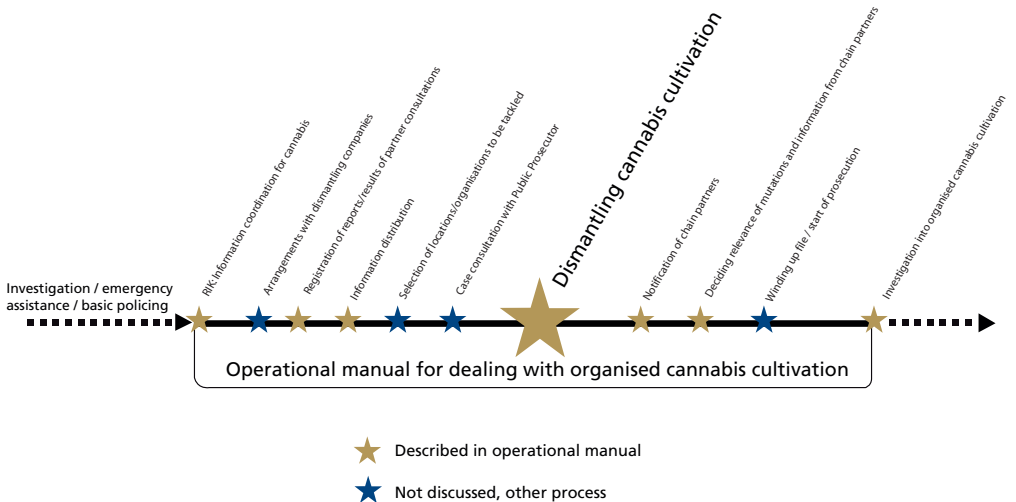
| What | How | Why | Pay particular attention |
|---------------|--|--|---|
| 5. Conclusion | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use standard questionnaire for questioning suspect(s) (http://pkb.politieacademie.politie.nl/kennisbank/Kennisbank%20documenten/Drugs/Drugscriminaliteit/Verhoorplan%20praktijkervaringen.doc) • Register seizure in BVH and KVI • Deposit goods • Notify Tax Administration (based on (regional) covenant) • For establishment of the truth, convert seizure within 3 days to prejudgment confiscation (maintain seizure 94a Code of Criminal Procedure) after consulting the Public Prosecutor • Write report of calculation of illegally gained profits from cannabis nursery conforming to Article art 36e of the Criminal Code and add to file (http://pkb.politieacademie.politie.nl/kennisbank/Kennisbank%20formulieren/Form22586_45_000006.doc) • Send cannabis information message to Tax Administration | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quick entries on seizure improve quality of police report • Quick entries on seizure improve quality of winding by police, OM and DRZ (risk control connected to integrity, mislaying, clearing station, removal of goods, drop in value, quick theft, drop in storage costs, etc.) • Tax Administration can seize seizure of police. avoids returning goods and improves confiscation via tax • Overview on seizure (police and BOOM) = monitoring terms = improving evidence and seizure management • Tax Administration can start financial investigation after seizure, without needing additional work from the police. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Entry in BVH • Draw up KVI • Transfer to OM • Transfer to BOOM • Decisional moment for Public Prosecutor • Complex crime scene with support from BFER • Maintain demands for seizure (94a Code of Criminal Procedure) • Confiscation report with calculated tested by BFER • Record remaining information |

3.3 Staff at the RIK (regional information hub)

Regional Information Hub

The RIK needs to maintain the position of most important regional information hub. As there is a large number of “players in the field”, the RIK must secure the most prominent position. This can be done by becoming the central “encyclopaedia”, before, during and after dismantling operations, but also by being the central point of a region where other parties can deposit information. Municipalities must not become alternative information desks for cannabis; any (operational) knowledge stored there should also be known to the RIK.

The time chart below marks the parts of the process “for dealing with organised cannabis cultivation” that are connected to the Intelligence agenda of the Dutch police are marked with red stars. They have been incorporated in the manual as action points or points of special interest.



Regional information process for “dealing with organised cannabis cultivation”

| What | How | Why | Pay particular attention |
|--|--|---|---|
| 1. Analysis | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organise “survey of case” • Scan information from dismantling operations for potential clusters • Scan for role of persons involved in criminal organisations | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No nursery is completely independent | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safety information products for insight for direction. If necessary, propose intervention • Products in accordance with standard products Intelligence program memorandum. |
| 2. Preparations for dismantling operations (IGP) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • location of cannabis nursery: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Address and postal code of location • Possession of the building. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - land registry extract - mortgage registry extract • Classification of the location (residential dwelling, barn, shed, attic etc.) • Digital images of the location (open Internet source or own incident information) • Description of surroundings of premises (habitation, industrial area, rural setting, etc.) • Registrations in BVH / BVO concerning the address in question from previous 2 years • (suspected) Natural and legal persons involved: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Persons registered at the address 2. Persons who can be linked to the address by means of registrations in BVH or BVO 3. Persons who can be linked to 1, 2 or 3 by means of registrations in BVH or BVO. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Relation to the address of dismantling operation (see categories 1 – 3 above) - Date from municipal personal records database - Digital images (if available) - Request for information from the system Blue View - Antecedents - Outstanding matters (fines, signing sentence, previous confiscations) - Information from CIE - Information from RID - Chamber of Commerce registration. - Registration by name of crafts and vehicles - Financially relevant information (supplemented by police force's financial expert) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information products should be used as a total information package to be offered to the executive in charge and also used to place a corresponding work order in the briefing • Information products are used for several purposes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - For the safety of all operational staff - For optimal confiscation - To secure carriers of trace evidence - For identification of different roles of the suspects - File compilation. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Considering the financial component, collaboration with the force's FR expert is essential |

Regional information process for “dealing with organised cannabis cultivation” (continued)

| What | How | Why | Pay particular attention |
|-----------------------------|---|--|---|
| 4. Dismantling operation | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Information help line” for operational special assignment officer • Information support directed at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - safety of operational staff - options for confiscation - establishing collaborative connections between suspects involved | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff should receive focused information even without requesting it. | |
| 5. Winding up | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notify covenant partners about dismantling operations that have been completed.⁸ | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Covenant partners (public and private) are notified increasingly often by police or OM about dismantling operations and then give police relevant information. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The covenant that applies to the region determines how and what can be provided and received by the police. |
| 6. Information service desk | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Processing of information about cannabis cultivation that is supplied by third parties <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Municipal authorities - Dutch Association of Insurers - Netbeheer Nederland - Stichting M | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information exchange is offered to partners at one police service desk per region: the RIK. | |

⁸ As yet, only the police forces of the provinces of Zeeland, Noord Brabant and Limburg for the duration of a pilot project (2010-2011).

3.4 Forensic Investigation services staff (FO)

FO staff are intensively occupied with all the construction elements of cannabis nurseries. Cannabis nurseries must be regarded as potentially dangerous crime scenes. The threats of electrocution, hazardous gasses and the organised crime context force the operation to be well structured, not just for the police staff, but also for everyone present at the location. The standard presence/cooperation of qualified fraud inspectors from Netbeheer Nederland will lead to joint intervention, but also demands stringent working arrangements. They will have a significant part in situations conforming to by 161 bis of the Criminal Code, to which the police must adjust their deployment (up-scaling from enforcement to investigation).

It was expected the epilethial tissue could be identified on the wiring of the electrical installation in cannabis nurseries. On the grounds of the epilethial tissue, a DNA profile could be produced on the basis of which the involvement of an odd-job man or electrician would emerge. Upon inquiry at the NFI, there appears to be no definite added value. In the Dagpauwoog study (2009) conducted by the Southeast Brabant regional police force, 12 samples were taken from the wire ends from transformers. None of the samples contained traces of DNA. Securing this type of trace evidence by basic policing

staff will therefore not yet be included in the scheme.

In cases involving complex crime scene dismantling operations, the decision to carry out the operation or not lies with the tactical officer with the final responsibility. It requires extra attention for safety and for the prevention of contamination. The Forensic Investigation organisation will be requested to keep monitoring the options in this field and to make recommendations

Electric installations and serious crime

| What | Focus | Particulars |
|--|---|---|
| <p>Description of the crime Article 161 bis and ter of the Criminal Code</p> | <p>161 bis: Any person who deliberately destroys, damages or puts out of operation, causes a disruption in the circuit or operation of any electric installation or sabotages a safety measure involving this type of installation shall be punishable by:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A prison sentence not exceeding one year or fine of the fifth category, if it causes obstruction of, or interference with, the electricity supply for general use; 2. A prison sentence not exceeding six years or fine of the fifth category, if it general danger to goods is to be feared; 3. A prison sentence not exceeding nine years or fine of the fifth category, if danger to another person's life is to be feared; 4. A prison sentence not exceeding fifteen years or fine of the fifth category if danger to another person's life is to be feared and the offence has caused someone's death. <p>161 ter: Any person whose fault it is that any electric installation is destroyed, damaged, rendered unusable, so that it causes a disruption to the circuit or operation of this installation, or a safety measure involving this type of installation is sabotage, shall be punishable:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A prison sentence not exceeding six months or fine of the fourth category if it causes obstruction of, or interference with, the electricity supply for general use or general danger to goods; 2. A prison sentence not exceeding one year or fine of the fourth category, if it endangers another person's life; 3. A prison sentence not exceeding two years or fine of the fourth category, if it causes someone's death. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Causality between acts and consequences. • Suspicion of Article 161 bis of the Criminal Code offers options for applying BOB tools • Fire at a cannabis nursery should always in principle be considered as a suspicion of Article 161 bis of the Criminal Code for the investigation plan. |
| <p>Intention (bis) or guilt (ter).</p> | <p>The degree in which the person who constructed the installation is to blame. If a person could be certain that it would "go wrong", if he could have known, with the right knowledge, that it could "go wrong", etc. The conclusions that can be drawn on the grounds of the perception that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A "professional" (partially) caused the danger, or • Were people just "messaging about", or • Etc. <p>The awareness of a possibility is insufficient. The substantiality of the chances determines the lower limits of conditional intention.</p> | <p>Safe work procedures and the correct conclusions can only be done (initially) with the cooperation of the fraud inspector from Netbeheer Nederland</p> |

Appendices

Appendix 1 Composition of the working group

This manual was compiled with the particular contribution of:

- H. Broekhuizen and T.J. Boersma, Midden and West Brabant police
- F. Oskam, Flevoland police
- K. Hunsche, Kennemerland police
- J. van Dorp, Zaanstreek-Waterland police
- K. Brandwijk, Groningen police
- H. Leunk, IJsselmeer police
- H. de Vries, Friesland police
- G. van de Streek, Utrecht police
- L. Oltshoorn, CCV
- M. van der Kamp and P. van der Veer, Fin Ec program
- H. Sterkens, Intelligence program
- P. Jans-Rat, Dutch Association of Energy Suppliers
- O. de Bruijn, Tax Administration
- E. Winters, Police Academy of the Netherlands
- PFOCC staff

We are also very grateful to:

- Process draft working group "ontmanteling" (2009)
- J. van der Sommen cs, Forensic Investigation, Brabant Zuid-Oost (expert group FO, being established)
- J. Wever, NPI VtsPN

**Appendix 2 Instructions for identification of situations governed by Article 161 bis
(in the alternative, 161 ter) of the Dutch Criminal Code**

| What | Description | Threat of: |
|--|---|---|
| 1. Manipulation or reinforcement of safety fuse of final group | The safety fuse no longer matches the installation. In the event of overloading (more electricity than the installation can handle) causing a short circuit, the installation cannot be taken out of operation (safely) and this can lead to the cables and installation overheating, and accordingly the risk of fire is great. | Fire |
| 2. Unprotected main junction box in residential building | The lid of the junction box has been opened unlawfully. Anyone else (children, water meter man, housemate, etc.) other than the person who did the manipulation and with access the meter cupboard may touch the parts (of the house junction box that are no longer protected) by accident and accordingly there is an acute threat of electrocution that could cause injury. | Electrocution |
| 3. Manipulation in the junction box. | <p>If unauthorised persons do any work to the junction box, there is also a risk of a short circuit. A short circuit in the junction box before the main fuse may result in an arc: a high-temperature, arched flame shaped that can maintain itself from the installation to another point and consequently threaten immediate danger and may lead to fire in the dwelling.</p> <p>Manipulation/reinforcing of the fuses in the junction box can allow more current to pass through the cables in the dwelling than the cables can handle, causing overloading. The risk of overloading may cause the temperature in the cables to rise too much, melting the cables and increasing the risk of fire, particularly at the joints and connection to inflammable material (if a main fuse does not work due to manipulation, it is the equivalent to illegally tapping off before the main fuse, see item 5 and / or 6).</p> | Fire in the installation / dwelling and the immediate surroundings. |
| 2. Illegally tapping off before the meter after the main fuse | A. The lid of the junction box has been opened unlawfully. Anyone else (children, water meter man, housemate, etc.) other than the person who did the manipulation and with access the meter cupboard may touch the parts (of the house junction box that are no longer protected) by accident and accordingly there is an acute threat of electrocution that could cause injury. | Electrocution |
| | <p>B. If unauthorised persons do any work to the junction box, there is also a risk of a short circuit. A short circuit in the junction box before the main fuse may result in an arc: a high-temperature arched flame that can maintain itself from the installation to another point and consequently threaten immediate danger and may lead to fire in the dwelling</p> <p>Manipulation/reinforcing of the fuses in the junction box can allow more current to pass through the cables in the house than the cables can handle, causing overloading. The risk of overloading may cause the temperature in the cables to rise too much, melting the cables and increasing the risk of fire, particularly at the joints and connections to inflammable.</p> | Fire in the installation / dwelling and the immediate surroundings |

| What | Description | Threat of: |
|--|--|--|
| | <p>C. This method of illegally tapping off electricity requires that further on, at the end of the cable (nearly always in the nursery), a facility has been constructed to ensure that no more current passes through the cable than the cable can handle.</p> <p>It has been observed that this facility is often not present, or not adequately.</p> <p>There is a risk of overloading the cable. The consequence of overloading means that the temperature of the cables will rise too much, melting the cables, and increasing the risk fire enormously, particularly at the joints and connections to inflammable material.</p> | <p>Fire in the installation/ dwelling and the immediate surroundings.</p> |
| <p>Illegally tapping off electricity</p> | <p>Even when the main fuse has been removed or the main fuse has been put out of operation (by the fire brigade) by switching it off, the connected installation will still be live even though it is not evident. In the following actions, staff assume that the installation is no longer live, which it would be if the power was not being illegally tapped off. During (fire-extinguishing) operations in other parts of the dwelling, it could lead to anyone present (usually a fire fighter/police officer / clearance staff) being charged with electricity, resulting in life-threatening situations.</p> | <p>ADDITIONAL DANGER (for emergency services too): serious personal injury</p> |
| <p>4. Illegally tapping off electricity before the main fuse in a junction box</p> | <p>A. The lid of the junction box has been opened unlawfully. Anyone else (children, water meter man, housemate, etc.) other than the person who did the manipulation and with access the meter cupboard may touch the parts (of the house junction box that are no longer protected) by accident and accordingly there is an acute threat of electrocution that could cause injury.</p> | <p>Electrocution</p> |
| <p>3. Illegally tapping off electricity before the meter cupboard, inside or outside the dwelling.</p> | <p>B. If unauthorised persons do any work to the junction box, there is also a risk of a short circuit. A short circuit in the junction box for the main fuse may result in an arc: a high-temperature arched flame that can maintain itself from the installation to another point and consequently threaten immediate danger and may lead to fire in the dwelling. Manipulation/reinforcing the fuses in the junction box can allow more current to pass through the cables in the dwelling than the cables can handle, causing overloading. The risk of overloading may cause the temperature in the cables to rise too much, melting the cables and increasing the risk of fire, particularly at the joints and connections to inflammable material.</p> | <p>Fire in the installation/ dwelling and the immediate surroundings.</p> |

**Appendix 2 Instructions for identification of situations governed by Article 161 bis
(in the alternative, 161 ter) of the Dutch Criminal Code (continued)**

| What | Description | Threat of: |
|---|--|--|
| | <p>C. This method of illegally tapping off electricity means that the connected installation is not safeguarded with the authorised main fuse (normal dwellings: 25-40 Amp.), but with a fuse from the connecting cable, which has been installed further along the street (135/400 Amp.). This means that larger currents are passing through into the installation in the dwelling. The installation parts connected to this branch (including cables and wires) are being used for situations for which they are not suitable. The installation components become heated, melt and create a short circuit of potentially more than 1,000 Amp.</p> | <p>Fire in the installation / dwelling and the immediate surroundings.</p> |
| | <p>D. This method of illegally tapping off electricity requires that further on, at the end of the cable (nearly always in the nursery), a facility has been constructed to ensure that no more current passes through the cable than the cable can handle. It has been observed that this facility is often not present, or not adequately. There is a risk of overloading the cable. The consequence of overloading means that the temperature of the cables will rise too much, melting the cables, and increasing the risk fire enormously, particularly at the joints and connections to inflammable material.</p> | <p>Fire in the installation / dwelling and the immediate surroundings, but also serious personal injury.</p> |
| <p>Work of this nature done by unauthorised persons, independently of expertise, is always dangerous to persons and surroundings .</p> | | |

Appendix 3 Explanation of the Information package, before, during and after dismantling operations

Informative preparation for the dismantling operation

The following information products should be made available on the day of the dismantling operation as a total information package for the officer in charge and also used to place a corresponding work order in the briefing.

Location of the cannabis nursery:

Address and postal code of the locations.

Classification of the location (residential dwelling, barn, shed, attic, etc.) Digital images of the location (open Internet source or own digital material).

Description of the building's surroundings (habitation, industrial area, rural setting, etc.) Registrations in the systems BVH / BVO at the address in question for the previous 2 years.

Circumstances:

Experiences of recent dismantling operations and the method discovered at the time. Endangerment at nurseries.

Perpetrator(s)

Standard personal file of;

1. Owner of the building.
2. Persons registered at that address.
3. Persons connected to the address by means of registrations in BVH or BVO
4. Persons connected to 1, 2 or 3 by means of registrations in BVH or BVO

Including:

- Relationship to the address of the dismantling operation (see categories 1–4 above)
- Data from municipal personal records database
- Digital images (if available)
- Request for information from Blue View (integral request for available information from police)
- Antecedents
- Outstanding matters (fines, serving notice of judgment, confiscations, etc.)
- Information from Criminal Intelligence Unit (CIE) (if it can be made available)
- Information from the Regional Information Service (RID) (if it can be made available) Registration with the Chamber of Commerce
- Personal registration of vehicles (consult Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency (RDW))
- Financially relevant information (supplemented by the force's financial expert)

Many investigations have revealed that no nursery is completely independent and nearly always part of a network. Accordingly, we shall not assume the presence of victims in the description of the information product.

If relationships can be deduced from the information above to previously cannabis nurseries or other criminal investigations, it is the responsibility of the information

coordinator to inform the RC-h and the officer in charge of the dismantling operation of this before the dismantling operation.

Intelligence-accent during the dismantling of the cannabis nursery

No nursery is completely independent and consequently it is important to gather as much information as possible during the dismantling operation. This is more than gathering evidence. Assuming the professional attitude of the operative staff, we will limit this schedule to stressing accents:

1. For the continued criminal-procedural handling of the dismantling operation:
 - Make a connection between the secured trace evidence, including the relationship between the forensic investigation traces and the options for confiscation
 - Give relevance to the information that is provided by partners

Intelligence-accent after the dismantling of the cannabis nursery

- If we assume that no nursery is completely independent, it is important to examine, for criminal investigation, the gathered information informatively the day after the dismantling operation. At this stage, we shall specifically assume that the information staff have a professional attitude.

This examination has three accents:

1. For the continued criminal-procedural handling of the dismantling operation.
 - purchaser / client of this product is the leader of the investigation.
2. The search for connections between information/knowledge that has already been acquired about cannabis nurseries and dismantling operations (both in the force in question and other forces).
 - purchaser / client is the RC-h
3. Fortifying intelligence (how does this form of crime operate)
 - purchaser / client is the RC-h and the chain partners

Assuming the professional attitude, we shall limit this schedule to stressing accents.

1. For the continued criminal-procedural handling of the dismantling operation:
 - As a minimum, examination for criminal investigation of persons listed in the items under 1.
 - Collaboration and connection with the information position (knowledge) from FTO.
 - Collaboration with the financial experts connected to the investigation.
 - Use / contribution of information delivered by partners, after they have studied the information on the dismantling operation.
2. The search for connection between information/knowledge that has already been acquired.

- The basic products for this stage are the LOODS components.
- The aim is:
 - To make connections between locations / persons etc.
 - To gain a picture of the networks behind the nurseries
 - If necessary, to upscale the criminal-procedural handling of the dismantling operation (see 3.1).
 - Improvement of the informative position for the next dismantling operation
 - Stackability of information at the force level – national level.
 - To acquire directional information (proactive – preventive or repressive) for dealing with organised cannabis cultivation.
 - Meeting the regional agreements on the results concerning cannabis.

3. Fortifying the intelligence (how does this form of crime operate) once again.

- The knowledge that has already been acquired in 1 and 2 can be fortified.
- For this part, it also is important to connect the knowledge gained from the criminal-procedural handling, after its completion.
- The aim is:
 - To put the RC-h into position
 - To acquire a picture of the barrier possibilities in the strategy.
 - To improve future dismantling operations wherever they may be, in the police corporation.

Appendix 4 Seizure of carriers of trace evidence

Objective

Besides the other program-based elements in the strategy for dealing with organised cannabis cultivation, structured forensic investigation into traces in cannabis nurseries is essential to make connections to the organisations behind the cannabis cultivation.

Volume and complex crime scene

We have defined a division between volume dismantling operations (the rule) and complex crime scene dismantling operations (exceptions) as a starting point. Volume dismantling operations are almost always carried out as part of the process of “enforcement”. Complex crime scene dismantling operations are conducted within the process of “investigation”. Complex crime scene work is delivered for scheduled dismantling operations that correspond to a current crime investigation, and in those cases, it is suspected that Article 161 bis of the Dutch Criminal Code applies to the situation. In recent years, the national number of dismantled nurseries has remained stable (app. 5,200 per year).

Regional coordination

Regional coordination on the theme of “cannabis cultivation” must also be marked as a “condicio sine qua non” from a forensic investigation point of view, for dealing effectively with organised cannabis cultivation. At present, the national approach is to deal mainly with the

nuisance caused by the nurseries.

By contrast, collecting carriers of trace evidence will be the initial step towards a connection or transition to investigation. Consequently, networks will become visible, particularly through the deployment of “odd-job men”. The use of trace evidence for forensic investigation also provides a better base for confiscation.

Forensic investigation expertise

Support from forensic investigation services for complex crime scene dismantling operations shall not be discussed in further detail here. The forensic investigation standards provide sufficient cover and do not require any more detail here. Extra attention should be paid to the prevention of contamination by the basic policing staff and requires much direction on the spot.

5 stages

Five stages can be distinguished as regards trace evidence for forensic investigation in connection with cannabis cultivation:

1. Seizure and storage of carriers of trace evidence and taking DNA samples from suspects.
2. Determining the tactical relevance of the secured carriers of trace evidence (such as the suspicion of clusters on the grounds of the whole picture).
3. The selection of the trace evidence for more detailed examination at the NFI on the grounds of its relevance for the forensic investigation.

4. Offering the trace evidence to the NFI.
5. Giving tactical relevance to matches from the NFI that refer to potential clusters.

Orientation on trace evidence

Besides taking photographs and writing descriptions, the search for traces should concentrate on:

1. Matters that are evident and
2. what is known to be relevant from experience.

Ad 1.

As a rule, intervention for volume dismantling operations is pursuant to Article 96 of the Dutch Code of Criminal Procedure. Application of authority pursuant to Article 97 of the Dutch Code of Criminal Procedure is usually only for complex crime scene dismantling operations.

Ad 2.

Netbeheer Nederland has said that they find traces on manipulated meters at more or less the same spots during the investigation, fingerprint traces and traces of tools. It may be worth considering incorporating these observations in a fixed pattern of seizure. This offers possibilities to have the seizures done within the basic policing.

Appendix 5 Confiscation

The options for preparation:

Documents

Persons

- Request information from Municipal Personal Records Database (GBA) + Land Registry
- Residential - Land Registry (land registry details; owner, etc.)
- Inhabitants - Municipal Personal Records Database (GBA) (population register, who, relationships)
- Internal Police - BVH, Blue View, VROS, MRO etc.
- Mortgage registry - is it mortgaged
- Mortgage deed - mortgage company
- Company - Land registry (details of owner)
- Natural person - GBA (lessor?)
- Internal Police - BVH, Blue View, VROS, MRO etc.
- Tax Administration - Enterprises (pays VAT?)
- Legal entity - Chamber of Commerce (registration)
- Director(s)
- Actual executives (see authority of directors)
- Mortgage registry - is it mortgaged
- Mortgage deed - mortgage company
- Partner (The Hague) - several associated contacts (businesses)?
- Vehicle(s) - Drivers and Vehicles Licensing Agency + insurance policies
- Name on licence plate registration
- Name on insurance policy

- Name on road tax
- Craft (in boat shed, for example)
- Drivers and Vehicles Licensing Agency - registration number of boats (for fast craft)

Seizure

- Seizure - KVI
- Criminal - KVI + investigation value (support from BOOM)
- Prejudgment seizure - authorisation 103 SV of the RC
- Authorisation 126 SV SF
- Transfer to (BO)OM (058-2341174)
- Assayer's report - support from BOOM and DRZ

Winding up seizure

- Supervision on registration:
- BVH
- KVI (94Sv)
- Transfer to (BO)OM
- PV 103 Sv
- Enforcement seizure - PV 94a Sv
- Assayer's report
- Estate agent of dwelling or business
- WOZ value (council/Tax Administration)

Police Knowledge Net (PKN):

Most usual documents are available via this link: <http://pkb.politieacademie.politie.nl/kennisbank/Lists/kennisbank%20data/DispForm.aspx?ID=871&navid=564>

Appendix 6 Model text for “cannabis information notice”

On _____ at the location _____ in _____, the police _____ have dismantled an operational cannabis nursery. Accordingly, a crime was discovered while it was being committed.

The further police investigation shall concentrate on the following criminal offences:

- Violation of the Articles 3, under B, C and D and 11 of the Dutch Opium Act
In this case, cultivating, preparing, treating, processing, selling, delivering, providing or transporting, having in possession, manufacturing these substances as intended in List II of the Dutch Opium Act, or deliberately eliciting or participating these offences.
- Violation of the Article 171 of the Dutch Criminal Code
In this case, destruction of, or damage to, any building.
- Violation of the Article 161 bis of the Dutch Criminal Code
In this case, deliberate destruction of, or damage to, any electrical installation.
- Violation of the Article 161 ter of the Dutch Criminal Code
In this case, guilty of destruction of, or damage to, any electrical installation.
- Violation of the Article 310 of the Dutch Criminal Code
In this case, the theft of electric current, charged by the Electricity Company.
- Violation of the Article 311 of the Dutch Criminal Code
In this case the theft of electric current, charged by the Electricity Company.
- Other offences

Provisionally, the following persons will be regarded as suspects:

1. A _____, born on _____ in _____, residing in _____, _____
2. B _____, born on _____ in _____, residing in _____, _____
3. C _____, born on _____ in _____, residing in _____, _____

Please inform me if, and how, said suspect(s) or other persons in your administration may be connected to the building in question. If you think you have any other information on the building/persons in question that may be relevant in this matter, I would be happy to receive it. The information you provide is important to the current criminal investigation and shall be registered in the administration of the Basisvoorziening Handhaving [facility database for enforcement] (BVH) of the _____ force.

Exchange of information occurs through the agency of the Regional Information Hub (RIK) of the _____ regional police force, telephone _____

The notification above arises from a covenant agreement between your organisation and the police _____ by which cannabis in general and recidivism by persons involved in particular may be prevented.

Attended by:

Police Sergeant

This vision for an integral strategy for dealing with organised cannabis cultivation is based on intervention conforming to the Dutch Opium Act and the Dutch Code of Criminal Procedure and focuses on the identification of criminal structures behind organised cannabis cultivation.

