

Jerrod Citizen

"Where cotton is king"

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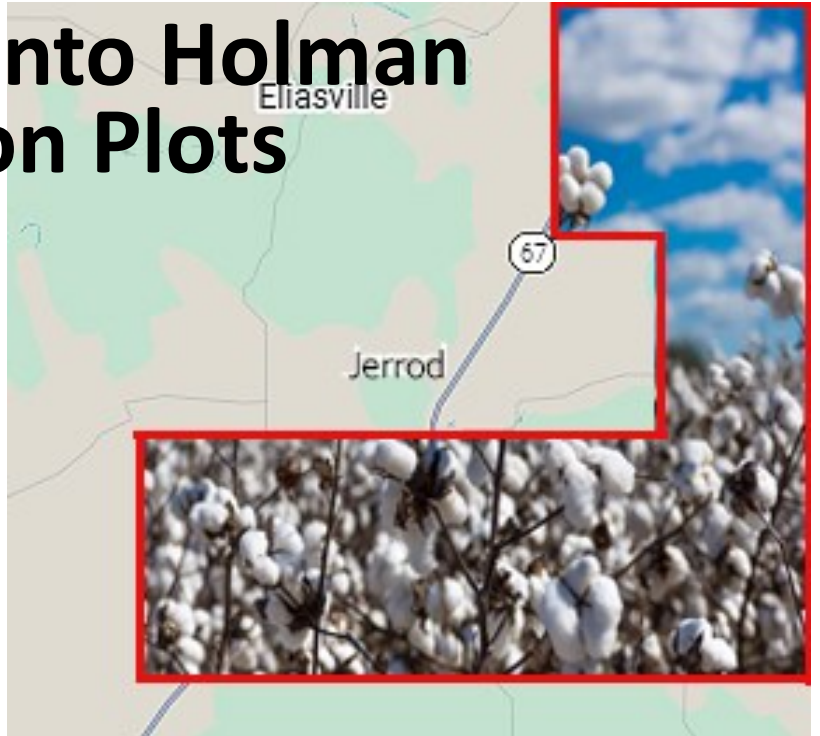
Big Three Buying Into Holman County's Big Cotton Plots

Agrocentor, a Chinese/Kuwait/Brazilian corporate farming consortium, is buying cotton land in Holman County. According to an anonymous source, the corporate farming company is targeting approximately 90 sections.

Some purchases have been made, the rest targeted for the end of the year. If the consortium closes all the deals, they'll be paying just over three million dollars, averaging \$4700 per acre.

Farmers who have agreed to Agrocentor's terms had to sign non-disclosure agreements in effect until all negotiations are complete. Agrocentor operates cotton farming properties in the Gulf Coast, Brazil and Kuwait, according to the company's website.

Had the land rush happened forty years ago, it would have displaced more than eighty traditional farmers and their families. In the last decade, the average farmer can operate two sections because of increased mechanization. Many of the plots on the market are operated by leasers, who contract with aerial sprayers, harvesters and haulers to bring the crops to market; not so much different than the way any manufacturer does business.



This shows the cotton farming areas in Holman County, about a third of the county's 1200 square miles. According to The USDA Marketing service, The price for cotton in Texas is around 60.76 cents per pound as of late November 2023, but prices vary daily. A standard 500-pound bale of cotton is valued at approximately \$303.80 based on this price.

Jerrod and nearby towns will reap part of the benefits of the buyouts. The average dollar rolls through goods and services in home communities before its absorbed in the economy, That's assuming part of the windfall is spent locally. Not entirely a safe bet.

IF IT WASN'T FOR BAD LUCK...

Two Strikers players were ineligible when they played in the season's third game against Edwardsville. Under University Interscholastic League rules, that and the first two games are forfeit.

The players, whose names are being withheld, will have to sit out the next game, if there is one. Coach Arlen Spikes said Monday Toby Charles has been hospitalized because of a chronic illness. He'll

be out for at least a week.

Spikes told *The Citizen* "You know, our football season may be over if we can't find people to fill the roster. We've got four games ahead of us and knew we'd be in big trouble if just one player couldn't play. That'd leave us with five. We don't have anybody on the bench. You got any suggestions?"

Halloween Pooch Parade

Glady Jerrod Gerald is putting together the First Annual Pet Parade. "The Jerrod July Festival folded this year," she said. "It supported the cemetery board's clean-up day for years, so we needed to find another idea. I think the Pooch Parade will be just great."

The parade will be at noon on Oct. 31. There will be prizes for the cutest, biggest, ugliest dogs and the best dog and owner matching costumes.

More information in next week's Citizen.

Jerrod
CITY LIMIT
POP. 3434

I SAW Jeff Orn showing Arlie Sanders his brand new Rivian electric car. . .Hoss

Maxwell and his cousin Mark Forest planning their next goose hunt. . .Ellie

Carswell showing Missie Parker the new hand quilted blanket she made for her new grandbaby. . .

Fire Chief Amos Lowe and volunteer Rex Asher pressure testing the fireplugs on the square. . .

Librarian Lois Florez going through the beautiful pages of the new copy of The Book.