



## Devanahalli Pomelo Trees

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### Why in News

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The **Bangalore International Airport Limited (BIAL)** will plant **500 Devanahalli Pomelo trees** as part of its **Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)**. The plantation drive is **also part of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of World Earth Day**.

**Devanahalli pomelo, a citrus variety**, is almost on the brink of extinction.

### Key Points

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- Devanahalli Pomelo has a **Geographical Indication (GI)** tag. It is **grown in Devanahalli taluk, Bangalore (Karnataka)** and is **popularly known as chakota**.
- The **Devanahalli pomelo has a unique, sweet taste**, unlike other local varieties which have a bitter taste.
- The **establishment of the Kempegowda International Airport** brought in different livelihood opportunities for people to change their practices and **focus shifted away from its cultivation**. The **absence of an organised market for the fruit** was another factor behind decline in the plantation of the variety.  
BIAL owns and operates Kempegowda International Airport.
- **Pomelo** is a parent of the grapefruit and is also known by its **scientific name Citrus Maxima**. The fruit is rich in **Vitamin C**.
  - While each pomelo tree grows 24 inches per season, it can live from 50-150 years and reach a height of 25 feet.
  - Each tree annually yields an average of 300 to 400 fruit. Each fruit, typically, weighs 2 to 2.5 kg and is identified by distinctive **pink or red juicy carpels**.

**Source: HBL**