

What is a Green Honeycreeper?

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Why in News?

- This distinct honeycreeper discovered had male plumage on one half of its body and female coloring on the other.
- This differs from the typical males of this species, which are bright blue with a black head, and the females, which are grass-green all over.
- The rare phenomenon is scientifically known as bilateral gynandromorphic. It arises from an error during female cell division to produce an egg, followed by double-fertilization by two sperm.

About Green Honeycreeper

- It is a small bird in the tanager family.
- Scientific Name: *Chlorophanes spiza*
- Distribution: The New World Tropics (Rainforests in Central and South America), from Mexico to Brazil.

- Features:
 - It is 13-14 cm long and weighs 14 to 23 grams.
 - Its plumage is strikingly sexually dimorphic. The male is mainly blue-tinged green with a black head and a mostly bright yellow bill. The female is grass-green, paler on the throat, and lacks the male's iridescence and black head.
 - They are called Green Honeycreepers because the females and young birds are bright green with red eyes.
 - Although males have, on average, slightly longer wings and tails than females, there is considerable variation within each sex and much overlap.
 - It feeds largely on nectar, fruit, and insects and often frequents feeders supplying fruit.
 - Conservation Status:
 - IUCN Red List: Least Concern
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Q1) What are tanagers?

The tanagers comprise the bird family Thraupidae, in the order Passeriformes. The family has a Neotropical distribution and is the second-largest family of birds. It represents about 4% of all avian species and 12% of the Neotropical birds. Traditionally, the family contained around 240 species of mostly brightly colored fruit-eating birds.

Source: [Extremely Rare 'Half Female, Half Male' Honeycreeper Snapped in Colombia](#)

Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/green-honeycreeper/>

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