January's Suggested Constellation

Recognise it yet?

January's Suggested Constellation



That's right
- Taurus

OUT INTO SPACE

Approved by A. Hunter, Ph.D., Sec. Royal Astronomical Society

TAURUS

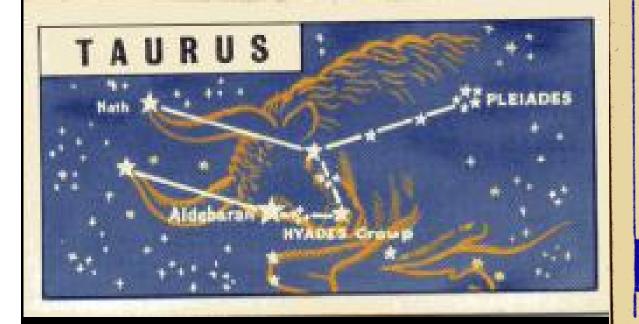
Taurus (Bull), second of the Zodiacal Signs, has two main groups of stars in the constellation. One is Hyades, a V-shaped group; the other is the Pleiades cluster. According to fable, the Pleiades are the seven daughters of Atlas turned to stars with their sisters, the Hyades, on account of their virtues and mutual affection. The red star Aldebaran (Follower) so named for following the Pleiades, is principal star in Hyades group, and a navigation star. Mythology says that the god Jupiter took the shape of a bull when he abducted Europa and carried her to Crete.

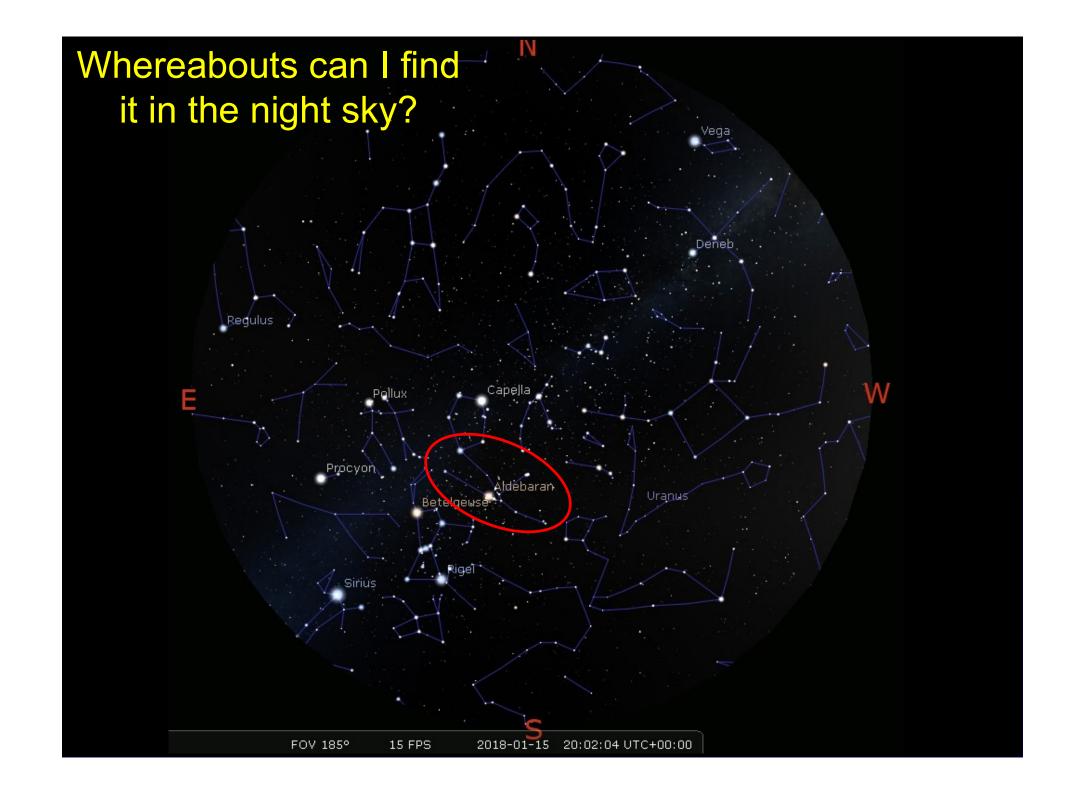
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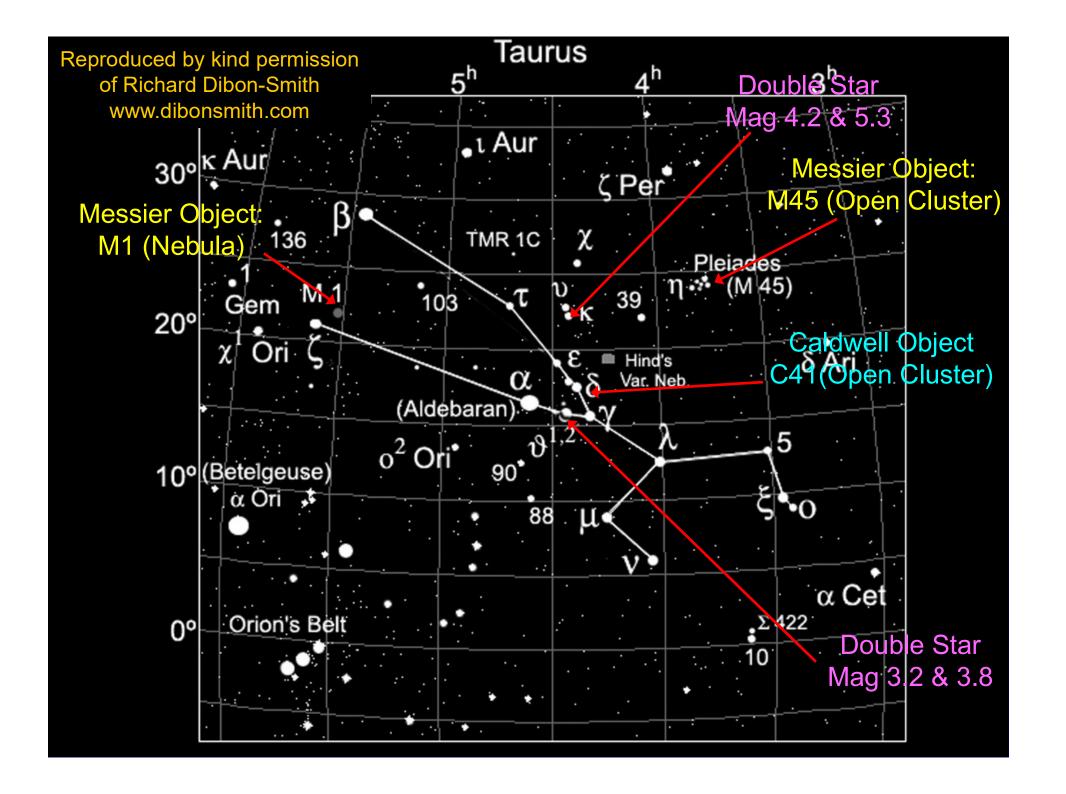
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Messier M1 - The Crab Nebula (Supernova Remnant)



Distance 6,500 light years Visual Brightness Magnitude 8.0 **Apparent Dimensions 6 arc minutes Discovered 1731 John Bevis**

Messier M45 - The Pleiades (Open Cluster)



Distance 407 light years
Visual Brightness Magnitude 1.5

Apparent Dimension 2 degrees Discovered Known since antiquity

Caldwell C41 - The Hyades (Open Cluster)



Distance 151 light years
Visual Brightness Magnitude 0.5

Apparent Dimension 5.5 degrees Discovered 1777 Known since antiquity