1740

Butterfly Cluster

Quick Facts:

Distance: 1,600 Light-years.

Size: Approx 12 Light-years.

Constellation: Scorpius.

Another beautiful naked eye galactic cluster in Scorpius. The cluster's brightest star is an orange giant that is also a variable star. Messier 6. Find it: Star hop starting at the double star at the end of the Stinger, then go 5 degrees just east of due north. Cluster M-7 is close by to the southeast. GOTO: M (Messier).

Image by Ole Nielsen, Quick reference card by Derek Wallentinsen.