

# Eridanus Optics CC

May 2006

## Targeting Scorpio

Scorpio lies above the eastern horizon in the early May evenings and provides several targets for naked eye observation as well as for binocular and telescopic viewing. The directions refer to the attached sky map.

### Naked eye targets:

Scorpio is a constellation that doesn't require a super imagination to interpret. Dschubba represents the head of the scorpion while Graffias and Pi Scorpii can be regarded as the two claws. (The true claws are actually part of Libra). The body runs through Al Niyat, Antares (the red hart of Scorpio) and Tau Scorpii. It continues to Wei, Mu Scorpii and Zeta Scorpii. The tail continues from here through Eta Scorpii, Sargas, Iota Scorpii, Girtab and Shaula. The telson (stinger) ends in G Scorpii.

Most of the stars mentioned above should be visible even from light polluted sites.

Antares (the heart) is a red supergiant, with a diameter about 500 times the Sun's diameter.

Mu Scorpii consists of two components that can be seen with the naked eye. Other pairs that can be seen with the naked eye include Omega Scorpii and Zeta Scorpii.

### Binocular Targets:

NGC6231 is an open cluster that consists of about 120 stars.

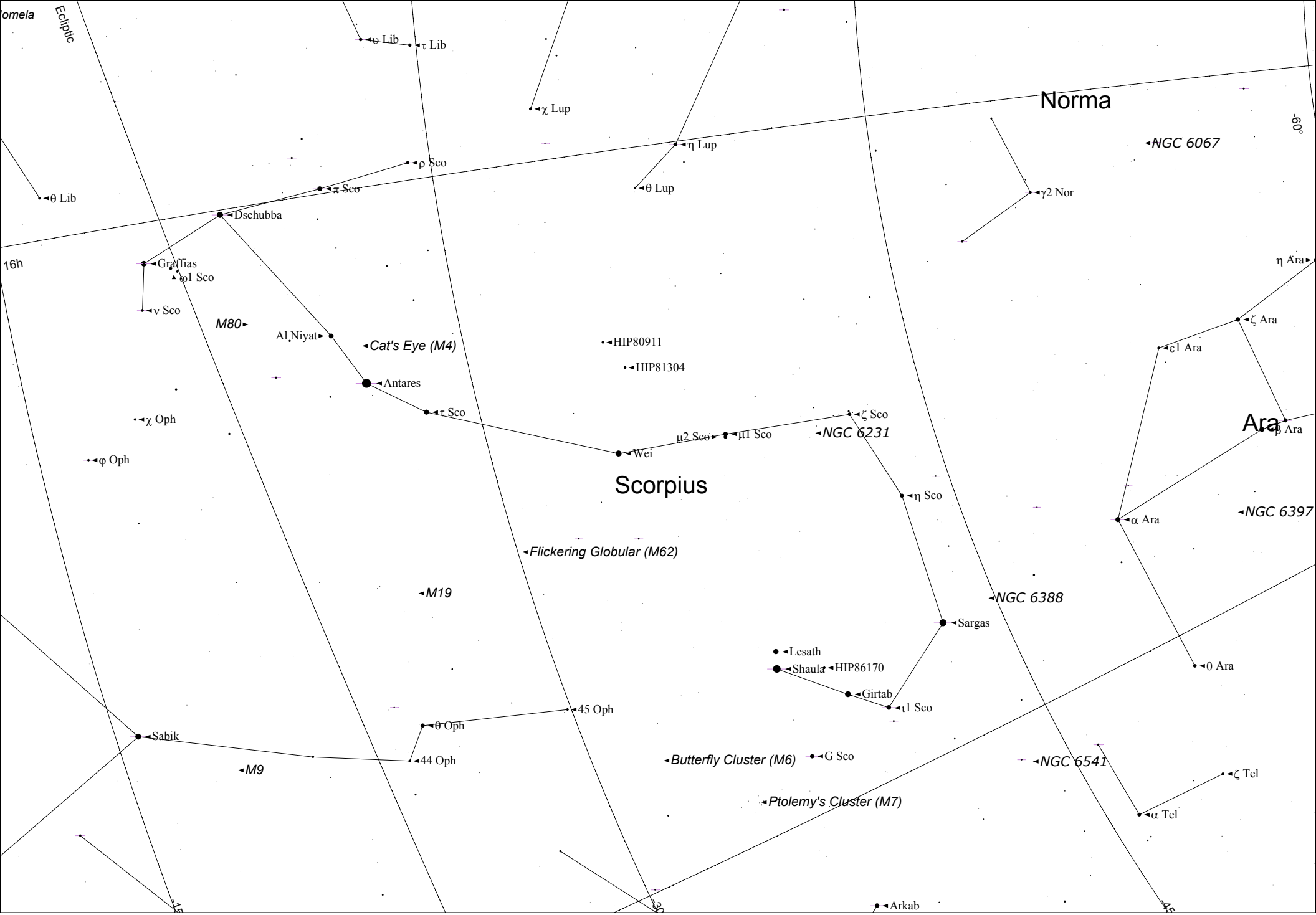
### Telescope Targets:

M4, the cat eye globular cluster (Magnitude 7.5) can be found near Antares. Although M4 can be seen through Binoculars, small telescopes will show a string of stars running through the cluster's centre. Large telescopes may reveal several star chains.

Another Globular cluster, NGC 6388, can be found near Sargas. The visual magnitude of this cluster is 6.7.

Happy hunting!

Andrie



Viewing from Pretoria, South Africa Long: 28° 13' 24" Lat: -25° 43' 29"

2006/05/18 08:00:00 PM (Local)

Chart centre (J2000): RA: 16h 52.417m Dec: -35° 34.683'

Looking: south east (23° above horizon)

FOV: 45°

Limiting Magnitude: 6.6