

THE ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF CANADA
STANDING COMMITTEE ON OBSERVATIONAL ACTIVITIES

COMET AND NOVA SECTION

Announcement No. 15

COMET IKEYA-SEKI 1967n

For the next few months, this comet will be well placed for observations from Canada. It is bright enough to be seen with binoculars and small telescopes, and will be circumpolar for most Canadian observers from early March until mid June. The following ephemeris is from Circular 2054 of the International Astronomical Union:

1968	R.A.(1950)			Dec.	Mag.	1968	R.A.(1950)			Dec.	Mag.
	h	m		o	'		h	m		o	'
Feb. 29	17	16.0		42	02 N	Apr. 6	07	56.7		84	26 N 7.5
Mar. 5	17	17.5		49	14 6.9	7	07	38.7		83	28
	17	17.7		56	51	8	07	25.8		82	30 7.5
	17	15.7		64	36 6.9	9	07	16.4		81	32
	17	08.8		72	13	14	06	53.0		76	56 7.7
	16	48.2		79	23 7.1	19	06	45.3		72	50
	16	40.0		80	43	24	06	42.8		69	14 8.1
	16	29.0		82	01 7.2	29	06	42.8		66	04
	16	13.8		83	17	May 4	06	44.1		63	16 8.5
	15	52.1		84	28 7.2	9	06	46.1		60	49
	15	20		85	32	14	06	48.6		58	38 8.9
	14	29		86	27 7.3	19	06	51.3		56	41
Apr. 1	13	13		87	04	24	06	54.3		54	57 9.2
	11	35		87	14 7.3	29	06	57.4		53	23
	10	06		86	54	June 3	07	00.6		51	59 9.5
	09	04		86	13 7.4	8	07	03.9		50	43
	08	23		85	22 N	13	07	07.1		49	33 N 9.8

This comet will pass near the bright stars: BETA Dra on March 7; ZETA Dra on March 16; POLARIS on April 2.

From recent observations made by Rick Lavery of the Ottawa Centre, it appears that Comet Ikeya-Seki may be a few tenths of a magnitude fainter than predicted. Visually, the comet appears as a nebulous object with little or no tail.

NOVA DELPHINI 1967 - The discovery of this unusual nova was reported on C & N Announcement No.13. Since last July, the magnitude has varied between three and six, and Rick Lavery of Ottawa reported it near fifth magnitude about the middle of February. The position of this nova is:

R.A. 20h 40m 04s Dec. 18° 58.9' N Epoch 1950.0

GENERAL ASSEMBLY 1968 - The Comet and Nova Section plans to have a display at the General Assembly in Calgary on May 17-20. If you have made observations of the above objects, please send reports to the undersigned for consideration.

Jim Low, National Coordinator,
 Comet and Nova Section,
 Box 172,
 AMF Postal Station,
 Montreal International Airport,
 Dorval, P.Q.

February 29, 1968.