



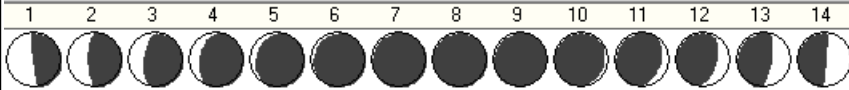
September
2010

YOUR MONTHLY GUIDE TO WHAT'S UP

Further details and graphics as well as up-to-date info
can be found on my web page www.eagleseye.co.uk
Dave Eagle

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All times GMT (UT).



THE MOON

1st Last Qtr.
8th New
15th First Qtr.
23rd Full.

The Moon will be close to:

Mars & Venus on the 11th.
Neptune on the 20th.
Jupiter & Uranus on the 23rd.

THE SOLAR SYSTEM

Mercury – Reaches inferior conjunction on the 3rd, so is unlikely to be seen at the beginning of the month. However it soon moves away from the Sun reaching greatest elongation on the 19th, when it will be visible as a 0.8 magnitude object in the eastern sky before sunrise.

Venus – Brilliant at magnitude -4.3 in the western sky after sunset. Will soon be lost in the evening twilight. Close to Mars on the 29th.

Mars – Extremely difficult to see as it is small and faint at magnitude 1.5 low in the western sky after sunset. Use the much brighter Venus to find it as it is close by on the 29th.

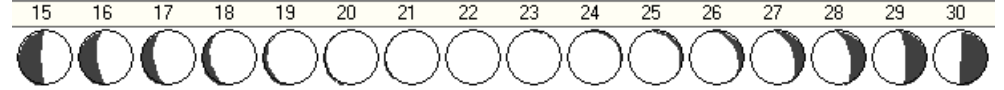
Jupiter – Reaches opposition on the 21st. It is extremely bright (mag. -2.8) in Pisces so is sufficiently high up to see great detail in the cloud belts. Passes within a degree of Uranus on the 22nd.

Saturn – Too close to the Sun to be seen this month.

Uranus – Reaches opposition on the 21st. Jupiter acts as a guide to finding this 5.7 magnitude planet when it passes by at less than a degree on the 22nd.

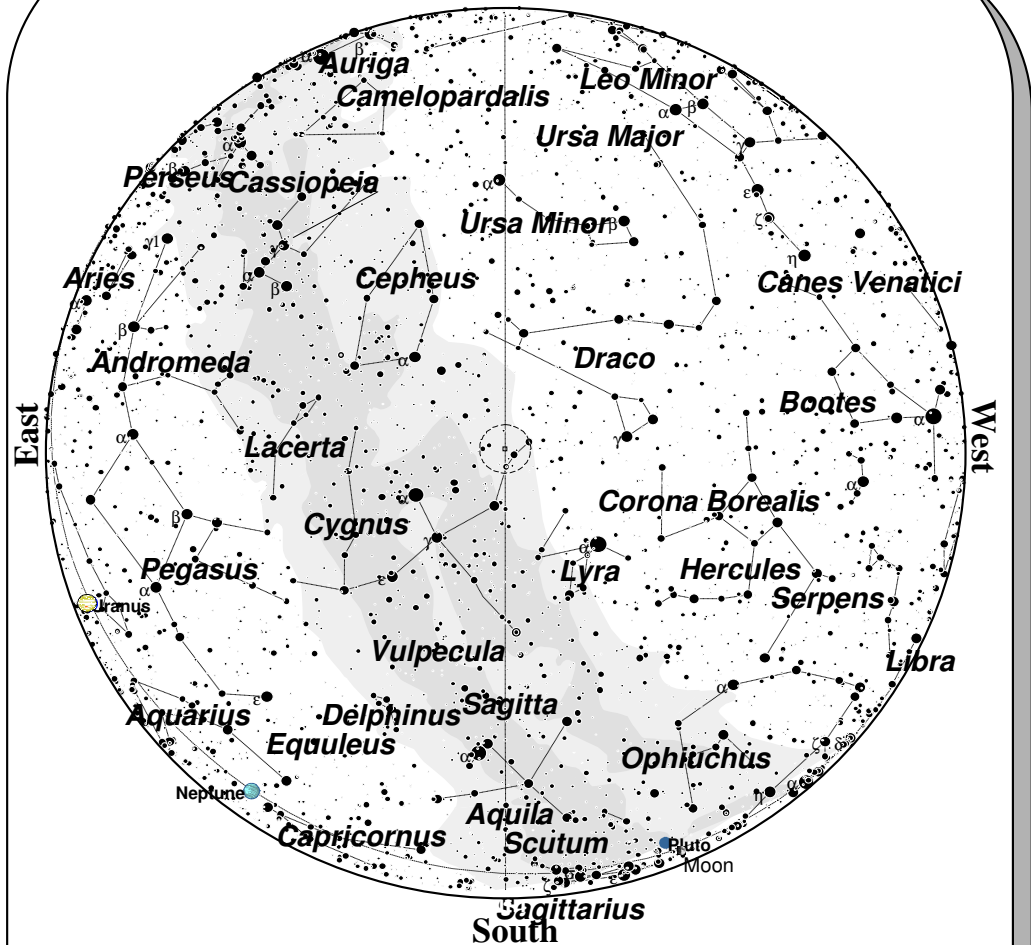
Neptune – At magnitude +7.9 in Aquarius, but will require binoculars or a telescope to identify.

Algol – This variable star is seen fading from magnitude 2.1 to 3.4 at the following times:
11th - 03:58h, 14th - 00:47h.



THE STARS

North This months sky.



This map shows whole sky at 21:00h on the 15th of the month.

We are now well into the observing season with earlier dark skies. Cygnus reaches its highest point with Aquila and Scutum lower in the southern sky. The top of the Sagittarius “Tea-Pot” may be spotted low down above the southern horizon. Can you spot the bright nebula M8 (The Lagoon nebula) and M22, a bright globular cluster in binoculars? Arcturus is now getting low down in the western sky, followed by the two giants Hercules and Ophiuchus. In the eastern sky Aries and Perseus are rising. Close behind is M44, The Pleiades star cluster. How early does your horizon enable you to see them?