

D.A.S. Variable Star Group

Target stars - overview

	Star	Extreme brightness range	Typical brightness range	Period of variation	Equipment needed	Frequency of observation	Visibility	Type
One nighter	Algol, Beta Persei	2.1 – 3.4	Always the same range	2.87 days (2 days 21 hours approx.)	Naked eye	Every 30 mins during an eclipse	All year	Eclipsing binary
One weeker	Beta Lyrae	3.4 – 4.3	Always the same range	12.9 days	Naked eye, binoculars will help during eclipse	Check every clear night	All year (low Jan – March)	Eclipsing binary
Medium	Alpha Herculis	3.0 – 4.0	0.4 mag variation	Uncertain 100 days? 300 days?	7 x 50 binoculars	Check every clear night	All year	Semi-regular variable
Long term	Gamma Cassiopeia	1.6 – 3.0	Usually stays about 2.5	None - unpredictable	Naked eye/binoculars	Check every clear night	All year	Semi-regular variable
Rebel	R Coronae Borealis	5.8 – 15.0	6.1 – 6.4 (until fade starts)	None - unpredictable	7 x 50 binoculars (telescope as fade deepens)	Check every clear night	Jan – Oct (very low Nov, Dec)	