

The Needle Galaxy NGC 4565

Located in the galaxy rich constellation of Coma Berenices, NGC 4565 stands out with the best of them. It is a classic example of an edge on spiral galaxy. Commonly known as The Needle Galaxy, it shines at magnitude 9.5, and estimates of its distance vary between 38 and 52 MLY.

It was imaged with an Atik One 6.0 ccd with Astronomic RGB filters, through an Explore Scientific ES127 F7.5 APO triplet refractor. Tracking was provided by a Paramount MX+ mount.

The best 30 of 35 2 minute exposures were used for each color channel and a synthetic luminance was created from the combined RGB image. Total imaging time 3 hrs. Preprocessing (with bias, darks and flats), and post processing were done in Pixinsight software.