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KX TrA = Cn 1-2 = PK 326 - 10°1

Feibelman (1988) recently drew attention to the symbiotic star KX TrA, which he referred to as Cn 1-2, noting its spectral similarity to some of the (very slow) symbiotic novae such as V1016 Cyg and HM Sge. He also claimed that the finding chart in Perek and Kohoutek (1967) is erroneous while that in my catalogue of symbiotic stars (Allen 1984) is correct.

Those planning to observe KX TrA should note that, in fact, the error occurs in my catalogue and the correct identification is that given by Perek and Kohoutek. Nonetheless, from his description of the ultraviolet spectrum, I infer that Feibelman observed the symbiotic star. KX TrA is the SW of a pair of stars of about 12th magnitude.

Feibelman encouraged observations of KX TrA on the basis that it might be a slow nova that had erupted prior to the first observation in 1921. Roughly 150 symbiotic stars are now known; about half of them broadly resemble KX TrA. It has long been recognised that many of these may have undergone nova-like eruptions before observations of them began. All deserve greater study.

If a comparison with other symbiotic novae is made then it should perhaps be with V1329 Cyg and AG Peg, since those systems involve a stable M giant and not a Mira variable, in common with KX TrA and unlike the symbiotic novae Feibelman mentioned.

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