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SUPERNOVA 1999cn IN MCG +2-38-043

S. Benetti, Telescopio Nazionale Galileo (TNG); C. Morossi, Osservatorio Astronomico di Trieste; and F. Bortoletto, R. Cosentino, D. Gardiol, A. Ghedina, F. Ghinassi, A. Magazzu, E. Marchetti, C. Pernechele, and A. Zacchei, TNG, report the discovery of a supernova (V about 17.9) on a V CCD frame taken with the TNG (+ Optical Imager Galileo) at La Palma on June 14.99 UT, while observing the galaxy MCG +2-38-043 (CGCG 077-007; R.A. = 15h06m46s.6, Decl. = +12o51'29", equinox 2000.0). SN 1999cn is located on a spiral arm and its offset from the galaxy center is 1".5 west and 8".3 north. Benetti also reports that an inspection of a preliminarily reduced spectrum (range 328-760 nm; resolution 0.35 nm) taken at the William Herschel Telescope (+ ISIS) by D. Axon, University of Hertfordshire; C. Packham, A. Humphrey, and J. Ray, Isaac Newton Group; and J. Smith, University of Hertfordshire, on June 15.14 shows that the supernova is of type Ic near maximum. The spectrum is dominated by strong P-Cyg lines of Ca II (H and K) and Fe II. A weaker Si II 635.5-nm line is also visible. The expansion velocities as derived from Ca II and Si II lines are about 13 900 and about 11 300 km/s, respectively. The redshift of the galaxy, derived from a strong and narrow H-alpha emission superimposed on the supernova spectrum, is about 6790 km/s.