



S.C. Web cams among world's favorites

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Two South Carolina Attractions - a cockroach and zoo animals - are among the most popular Web cam sites in the world for 2006.

The University of South Carolina's hissing cockroach and the Web cam at the Riverbanks Zoo in Columbia were named among the "25 Most Interesting Web cams" by Earthcam, which bills itself as the leading network of live Web cams.

It handles streaming video camera systems for clients such as NASA, Panasonic, Ford and many government agencies.

"Network camera technology and bandwidth continues to improve each year, enabling more streaming video with sharper images, and a much improved user experience overall," said Brian Cury, founder and CEO of [EarthCam](#).

The top 25 Web cams include cameras from Andorra, Canada, Italy, Japan, New Zealand, Switzerland, Syria and the United States.

EarthCam's news release says this about the Roach Cam at the University of South Carolina: "If you can't visit them in person at the University of South Carolina, the research lab provides you with an up close and intimate Web cam look at the 'family' life of giant Madagascar Hissing Cockroaches. If you're 'lucky,' you may catch one giving birth to nymphs who, when mature, can weigh as much as a fully grown mouse..."

And the camera at the Riverbanks Zoo gets this note: "Whether it's penguins, sea lions, tigers or grizzly bears, watching the live and archived Webcast activities of residents of Columbia, S.C.'s Riverbanks Zoo and Garden is a sight to see with the family. The live webcam views are the centerpiece of a website that makes learning about the world's wildlife fun. Check the animals of the month schedule on the 'Energetic Minds' section of the site."

Links to all 25 favorite sites are available at www.earthcam.com/top25/2006