A theft-resistant adjustable security box for digital cameras

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INVESTIGATORS DEVELOP A NEW TECHNOLOGY—an adjustable armoring system for digital wildlife cameras—and evaluate the "security box" for utility, cost-effectiveness, and protection of data. Arc-welded pieces of 0.08-inch (2 mm) thick steel accommodate the Cuddeback digital scouting camera; however, the security box is readily customized to fit any camera and is easily modified for a variety of field conditions, positions, and research needs. The cost of construction (including materials and labor) is approximately $90. The robust appearance of the security box and a posted note describing the purpose of the cameras may have helped to deter theft and tampering, because during the six-month study, none of the cameras were repositioned, vandalized, or stolen. Additionally, the security boxes did not interfere with camera operation, taking 107 photographs of wildlife in 160 days. The article contains a full schematic of the design.