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**The New York Times**  
Tuesday, March 13, 2007

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## FOOD STUFF; Prosciutto From Iowa Shows Its Spice

By FLORENCE FABRICANT  
Published: December 27, 2006

La Quercia, a company in Iowa that makes cured pork products from heirloom breeds, has added a new prosciutto to its inventory. Looking to southern Italy instead of to the north, which inspired its regular prosciutto and speck hams, the company now offers spiced prosciutto piccante. A blend of chilies and fennel is hand-rubbed into the fat and the meat as it cures, giving it a vibrant complexity that makes it excellent on a platter of hors d'oeuvres or in sandwiches.

Fairway sells it for \$21.16 a pound, and it can be ordered from [www.laquercia.us](http://www.laquercia.us), \$22.95 a pound for a four- to five-pound piece, or four 12-ounce packages with an apron or a knife for \$75.

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