

## Irish potato varieties released to farmers

BY ROBERT MUHEREZA

**N**ew Irish potatoes varieties have been developed and released to farmers ahead of the new season.

The Director for Kachwekano Zonal Agriculture Research and Development Institute, Dr Alex Barekye, says the varieties are resistant diseases which have affected the crop in western and eastern Uganda.

The newly developed Irish potato seedling called NAROPOTA is suitable for the mid altitude areas such as Rakai and Mityana.

He says that it produces about 20 tonnes per acre planted with 4,000 Kilogrammes of seed.

Dr Barekye says that whereas the traditional Irish Potato varieties such as Victoria, Rwangume and Rutuku have been doing well, highland areas farmers have been incurring high transport costs to take them to market centers in the central region.