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Resistant Irish potatoes unveiled

BY MICHAEL J SSALI

An agricultural research scientist at Kachwekano Zonal Agricultural Research Development Institute (ZARDI) has disclosed that Irish potato farmers can now grow potato blight resistant Irish potatoes.

Farmers have been using about 50 per cent of their budgets to buy pesticides that control the potato blight disease.

Speaking to *Seeds of Gold* at Karengyere Agricultural Demonstration Farm in Rubanda District, Abel Arinaitwe the brain behind the breeding of the potato blight resistant potato varieties said, "Right now we have them in our store and they will be shown to the farmers very soon. We will plant them in the first week of November, in a number of agricultural research institutions for the farmers to see the difference between the new variety and the other common ones."

Arinaitwe disclosed that the GMO potatoes will be planted in Kachwekano in Kabale District, Rwebitaba in Fort Portal, and Buginyanya ZARDI in Bulamuli District.