

**RESISTANCE TO BACTERIAL WILT (*PSEUDOMONAS SOLANACEARUM*) OF POTATO
CLONES DEVELOPED AT THE INTERNATIONAL POTATO CENTER**

Malarmagal Velupillai

(Agricultural Research Station, Sita Eliya,
Nuwara Eliya)

S. N. de S. Seneviratne and Srimathie Udugama

(Central Agricultural Research Institute,
Gannoruwa, Peradeniya)

Resistance to bacterial wilt caused by *Pseudomonas solanacearum* is a character desired of varieties to be grown in Sri Lanka especially in the Uva region and the lowlands. Efforts are being made by the International Potato Center, Peru (CIP) to develop potato varieties resistant to bacterial wilt using *Solanum sparsipilum*, *Solanum chacoense* and *Solanum phureja* as sources of resistance.

In a collaborative programme with CIP, several selections developed for resistance to bacterial wilt derived from *Solanum phureja*, as well as other CIP clones developed for resistance to late blight and adaptability to tropical lowland conditions, were screened against bacterial wilt in heavily infested field plots at Rahangala in the warm up-country dry zone and Getambe in the warm mid-country wet zone.

Of the many samples tested, the CIP lines 379 418, 379 420 and 379 421 which are also heat tolerant, have shown good resistance to the disease at Rahangala while 800 224 and 377 863.1 have performed well against bacterial wilt at both Rahangala and Getambe. The line 377 838.2 has also shown promise.