'Mbwazirume' is the most widely grown cultivar in the East African highland bananas subgroup. It belongs to the Nakitembe clone set. In the Luganda language, its name means "Let the flies bite" in reference to the abundance of biting flies in the Central Region's Kyaggwe county, where it is common.

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Morphological characteristics
Like the other cultivars in the Nakitembe clone set, 'Mbwazirume' has an imbricate waxy male bud, a persistent style at the tip of the fruit and persistent neutral flowers along the rachis. It is characterized by a red midrib and petiole.

The raw fruit is ivory in colour. When cooked its colour is a deep yellow. 'Mbwazirume' produces a large compact bunch and matures quickly (the time from flowering to harvest is 3-4 months).

Host reaction to diseases and pests
Mbwazirume is susceptible to nematodes, weevils and black leaf streak. In field trials conducted in Asia between 2011 and 2012, 'Mbwazirume' (ITC0084) was exposed to tropical race 4. The proportion of plants showing symptoms was 2% after 72 weeks in the Davao field site in the Philippines, and 0% after 52 weeks in the Guangzhou field site in China[1].

References
1. Resistance to Fusarium oxysporum f. sp. cubense in African bananas, a presentation given at the 2014 ISHS-ProMusa symposium in Brisbane, Australia.

See also on this website
Articles on 'Mbwazirume' in Musalit
Local names for 'Mbwazirume' in the cultivar checklist

Musapedia pages on cultivars:
Apantu
Asupina
Bira
Bogoya
Bungulan
Figue Pomme
Gerei Langi
Giant Cavendish
Grande Naine
Gros Michel
Huamoa
Iholena lele
Inarnibal
Karat
Kayinja
Kisubi
Kolale
Lahi
Lai
Lakatan
Latundan
Maoli Maoli
Mbwazirume
Mysore
Ney Poovan
Obino I'Ewai
Pei Chiao
Pelipita
Pisang Awak
Pisang Jari Buaya
Pisang Lilin
Pisang Raja
Pitogo
Saba
Sucrier
Sukali Ndizi
To'o
Williams
Yangambi Km5

External links

To browse accession-level information on 'Mbwazirume' in MGIS

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