Groundwater Body Code
MT002

Groundwater Body Name
Rabat-Dingli Perched Groundwater Body

Reference Year
2004

General Characteristics

Location
The Rabat-Dingli Plateau lies in the western region of Malta and ranges in height from 150 to 250m above mean sea level. It is roughly triangular in shape and is bounded by the Victoria Lines fault to the north, the sea to the west and the central plains of the Globigerina Limestone to the east.
The Rabat-Dingli perched groundwater body is the most extensive and the most elevated of the perched groundwater bodies and is sustained in the Upper Coralline Limestone aquifer by the underlying impervious Blue Clay formation.

Area
22.6km²

Main Aquifer
Upper Coralline Limestone

Main Aquifer Type
Fractured Carbonate Media

Groundwater Horizon
1

Maximum Length
9.1km

Maximum Width
5.8km

Mathematical centre of groundwater body
443900, 3970400

Hydro-geological characteristics

Stratigraphy
Tertiary—Miocene

Mean Annual Precipitation
524mm

Mean Aquifer Thickness
18.7m

Main Recharge Source
Precipitation

Mean Annual Recharge
4.6hm³

Pressures

Main Land-Use Features (Corinne Landcover 2000)
Discontinuous urban fabric 13%
Agriculture with significant area of natural vegetation 40%
Sclerophyllous vegetation 42%
Sparsely vegetated areas 1%
Mixed Woodland 2%
Mineral extraction sites 2%

Other Pressures
Water Abstraction Purpose
Irrigation, Secondary Domestic

Artificial Recharge
Mainly due to leakages from potable supply and sewerage network

Possible Associated Aquatic Ecosystems
Wied il-Luq and Wied tal-Bahrija Watercourses