Groundwater Body Code
MT003

Groundwater Body Name
Mgarr-Wardija Perched Groundwater Body

Reference Year
2004

General Characteristics

Location
The Mgarr-Wardija Groundwater body is located just north, on the downthrown side of the Victoria Lines Fault and overlies the main mean sea-level groundwater body. This Upper Coralline Limestone aquifer block can be said to comprise two main units: the Bingemma trough and the Wardija Ridge. The Bingemma trough is a depressed graben land-structure running from east to west across Malta lying mostly between 75 and 90m above mean sea-level. The Wardija Ridge is an elevated strip of land lying mostly between 90m and 140m above sea-level. The aquifer block contains three main synclinal structures, at Bingemma, Falka and Mgarr which are important features enhancing groundwater storage.

Area
13.7km²

Main Aquifer
Upper Coralline Limestone

Main Aquifer Type
Fractured Carbonate Media

Groundwater Horizon
1

Maximum Length
3.2km

Maximum Width
6.7km

Mathematical centre of groundwater body
443700, 3976000

Hydro-geological characteristics

Stratigraphy
Tertiary—Miocene

Mean Annual Precipitation
552mm

Mean Aquifer Thickness
32.6m

Main Recharge Source
Precipitation

Mean Annual Recharge
2.9hm³

Pressures

Main Land-Use Features (Corinne Landcover 2000)
Discontinuous urban fabric 5%
Agriculture with significant area of natural vegetation 63%
Sparsely vegetated areas 1%
Mixed Woodland 31%

Other Pressures
Water Abstraction Purpose Potable supply, Irrigation, Secondary Domestic
Artificial Recharge Minimal
Associated Aquatic Ecosystems None