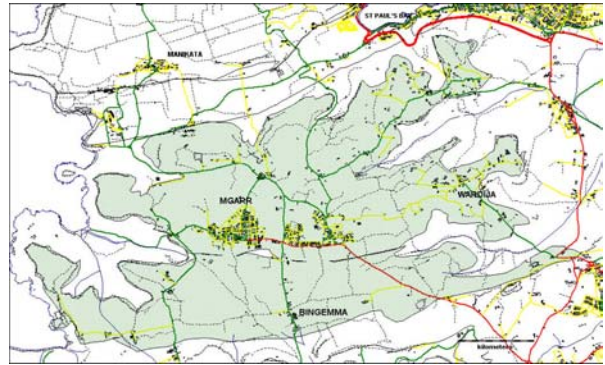




MALTA RESOURCES AUTHORITY



**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.

<b>Area</b>	13.7km <sup>2</sup>
<b>Main Aquifer</b>	Upper Coralline Limestone
<b>Main Aquifer Type</b>	Fractured Carbonate Media
<b>Groundwater Horizon</b>	1
<b>Maximum Length</b>	3.2km
<b>Maximum Width</b>	6.7km
<b>Mathematical centre of groundwater body</b>	443700, 3976000
<b>Hydro-geological characteristics</b>	
<b>Stratigraphy</b>	Tertiary—Miocene
<b>Mean Annual Precipitation</b>	552mm
<b>Mean Aquifer Thickness</b>	32.6m
<b>Main Recharge Source</b>	Precipitation
<b>Mean Annual Recharge</b>	2.9hm <sup>3</sup>
<b>Pressures</b>	
<b>Main Land-Use Features (Corinne Landcover 2000)</b>	
<b>Discontinuous urban fabric</b>	5%
<b>Agriculture with significant area of natural vegetation</b>	63%
<b>Sparsely vegetated areas</b>	1%
<b>Mixed Woodland</b>	31%
<b>Other Pressures</b>	
<b>Water Abstraction Purpose</b>	Potable supply, Irrigation, Secondary Domestic
<b>Artificial Recharge</b>	Minimal
<b>Associated Aquatic Ecosystems</b>	None