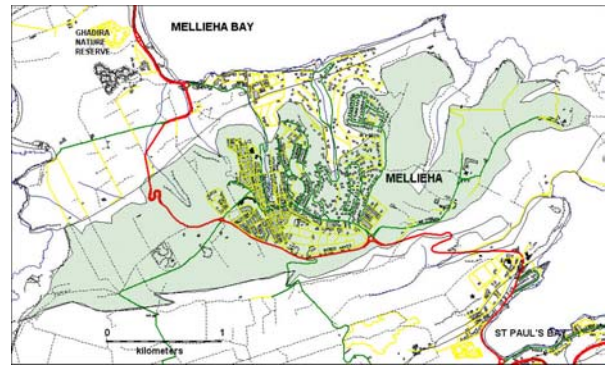




MALTA RESOURCES AUTHORITY



Groundwater Body Code

MT008

Groundwater Body Name

Mellieha Perched Groundwater Body

Reference Year

2004

General Characteristics

Location

The Mellieha Ridge is an elevated strip of land running from east to west across the north of Malta, lying mostly between 90m and 135m above sea level. It is bounded by two major strike faults—to the north runs the Ras il-Griegbeg Fault and to the South the Mizieb-Mistra Fault. Within this area the Upper Coralline Limestone outcrops over an area of 4.5km². The village of Mellieha straddles the centre of the ridge from north to south.

Area	4.5km ²
Main Aquifer	Upper Coralline Limestone
Main Aquifer Type	Fractured Carbonate Media
Groundwater Horizon	1
Maximum Length	1.5km
Maximum Width	5.2km
Mathematical centre of groundwater body	442900, 3979700
Hydro-geological characteristics	
Stratigraphy	Tertiary—Miocene
Mean Annual Precipitation	524mm
Mean Aquifer Thickness	27.5m
Main Recharge Source	Precipitation
Mean Annual Recharge	0.75hm ³
Pressures	
Main Land-Use Features (Corinne Landcover 2000)	
Discontinuous urban fabric	33%
Agriculture with significant area of natural vegetation	27%
Schlerophyllous vegetation	39%
Sparsely vegetated areas	1%
Mixed woodland	22%
Other Pressures	
Water Abstraction Purpose	Irrigation, Secondary Domestic
Artificial Recharge	Minimal
Associated Aquatic Ecosystems	None