



MAL045 - It-Tafal ta' Xmejxi

Description

It-Tafal ta' Xmejxi is an artificial pond, located in western Malta within Rabat. The borders of the pond had been constructed out of cement blocks, and concrete bumps had been purposely constructed on the adjacent road, to divert water runoff directly into the pond. The pond covers an approximate area of 1,710m² and is accessible to the public via a surfaced road. The site is predominantly surrounded by agricultural land, thus it is likely the pond is being used for irrigation of these fields. *Ricinus communis* occupies the basin of the pond, with a dense population of *Arundo donax* present close by. The pond itself was completely covered with a thin layer of *Lemna minor* L. The site is located within the Saqqajja Area of High Landscape Value.

General information

Basic information

Wetland location:	Inland
Wetland type:	Artificial
Natural / Artificial:	Reservoir
Area (Ha):	0.20
Hydrological interaction with other wetland:	Yes - MAL039
Water salinity:	Fresh (< 0.5 g/l)
Fresh water entry:	Catchment area (precipitation)
Surface water runoff:	Other
Open water area (%):	51 - 75
Hydroperiod:	Permanent

Geographic information

Census district:	Western
Island:	Malta
Local council:	Ir-Rabat
Coordinates (WGS84):	14.403990 E - 35.876360 N

Biological significance

Biological significance:	Low
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Ramsar wetland types

Ramsar type	Coverage (%)
6 -- Water storage areas; reservoirs/barrages/dams/impoundments (generally over 8 ha)	

Property status

Public

Protection statuses & other designations

Protection status

Protection status category	Protection status subcategory	Site name	Code	Coverage (%)	Legislation
National	Area of High Landscape Value	Is-Saqqajja	555546313	100	Development Planning Act (Act VII of 2016)

CDDA protection status

CDDA code	Category
MT15	Area of High Landscape Value

Ecosystem Services, Activities & Impacts

Ecosystem Services

Type of Ecosystem service	Ecosystem service	Scale of Benefit	Importance
Provisioning services	Food		
Provisioning services	Fresh water		
Regulatory services	Flood hazard regulation		
Regulatory services	Water regulation		

Activities on wetland

Activities	Intensity
020 = Resource conservation	High
701 = water pollution	High
852 = modifying structures of inland water courses	High
954 = invasion by a species	Low

Activities on drainage basin

Activities	Intensity
100 = Cultivation	High
110 = Use of pesticides	High
120 = Fertilisation	High
430 = Agricultural structures	Low
501 = paths tracks cycling tracks	Low
701 = water pollution	High
852 = modifying structures of inland water courses	High

Impacts

Impact type	Intensity
EE- = Increase of economic potential	
ER- = Increase in flow regulation	
ES- = Increase in water supply	
PF- = Fertilizer/Excess nutrient pollution	
PP- = Pesticide pollution	

Habitats & Vegetation

Vegetation types

Vegetation type	Coverage (%)
Emergent	26 - 50

Floating-leaved	> 95
Other	26 - 50

Species

Flora

Species	Dominance	Reference
Arundo donax		
Lemna minor		
Ricinus communis		
Rumex conglomeratus		

References

Representative Image & Map



