



Karst evolution within the Cretaceous Aquifers of Israel as related to the Mediterranean Sea and the Jordan Rift base levels

E. Wakshal

The Leo Picard Groundwater Research Center, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Rehovot, Israel (wakshal@agri.huji.ac.il / Fax: +972-8-9475181 / Phone: +972-8-9489853)

The Judea Group carbonate rocks of Cenomanian-Turonian age constitute the mountainous backbone of Israel, forming the western extension of the Palmera folding chain. Since the recession of the Oligocene Sea, the area has been exposed to tectonic activity and various stages of terrestrial erosion cycles during the time-span of Miocene up to Late Pleistocene. The hydrogeological regime could be calibrated by field survey as well as radioactive and stable isotopes.