

# Declaration of Manufacturer of the Mediterranean Sea Sponges

At Spugnificio Bellini we have always fought for helping the reproduction of sponges, to protect the environment and the sea floors. We struggled to obtain a regulation in terms of prohibition of fishing for a certain months of the year and the "no fishing rule" regarding to the small sponges, in order to control and regulate the fishing procedure.

And hereby we declare that the fishermen who collaborate with us (in the exclusive manner) are not permitted or allowed to fish sponges measuring less than 14 cm, to protect the marine environment. If they were found not to adhere to this rule, they would be fined, exempt from the sponge fishing, and reported to the Port Captaincy responsible for the correspondent fishing zone.

Our company requires that each year the fishing zone is changed to support the faster repopulation, to protect the sea floors and to ensure our work for the future generations.

## Description of fishing and processing:

Our fishermen, who apply the a.m. rules and grant us a constant supply of raw material, use only the diving method for fishing our sponges, and never use any trawls that could ruin the sea bottom and its inhabitants.

Once the boats return to the port, at the harbour, Mr. Bellini himself checks the raw sponges in order to select the best and the most suitable pieces for shipment to our plant in Italy, where the processing takes place.

Our sponges, before being distributed on the market, must undergo many strict controls through our staff in order to fully guarantee the quality of the product. Thanks to the high standards and strictness in the processing phase, our company has obtained the certification of "hypoallergenic product" for our sponges from the Mediterranean Sea.

Here we declare that our natural sea sponges are of an Italian origin, they are manufactured and packed exclusively in our establishment in Cogozzo di Viadana (MN) in Italy

Ivano Bellini, President

Spugnificio Bellini Egidio  
di Bellini Ivano & C. s.n.c.



spugnificio  
**BELLINI EGIDIO**  
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Place and Date:  
Cogozzo di Viadana, Italy,  
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