

**Table S2.** Effect of different dietary supplementation and bacterial challenges on ileum histomorphometric measurements of broilers at (40 d).

<b>Treatment group</b>	<b>Histomorphometric Measurements</b>		
	L	W	SA
	( $\mu\text{m}$ )	( $\mu\text{m}$ )	( $\mu\text{m}$ )
Negative Control, basal diet, unchallenged	624.8	75.9 <sup>ab</sup>	0.147
Positive Control, <i>C. perfringens</i> Challenge	566.3	75.6 <sup>ab</sup>	0.142
CloStat <sup>®</sup> , unchallenged	609.1	88.8 <sup>a</sup>	0.171
CloStat <sup>®</sup> , <i>C. perfringens</i> Challenge	603.4	67.7 <sup>b</sup>	0.130
<b>SEM<sup>1</sup></b>	$\pm 20.9$	$\pm 5.39$	$\pm 0.011$
<b><i>p</i>-Value</b>	0.2431 <sup>NS</sup>	0.052*	0.088 <sup>NS</sup>

L: villus length; W: villi width; SA: surface area,<sup>1</sup> SEM: standard error of the mean <sup>abc</sup> Means values within a column with different superscripts are significantly different \*,  $P < 0.05$ ; \*\*,  $P < 0.01$ ; \*\*\*,  $P < 0.001$ , NS, not significant.