

**Table II.** *The concentration of C. coli on samples of chicken carcasses collected after the slaughter operations.*

<b><i>C. coli</i></b>	<b>Caeca</b>	<b>Bleeding*</b>	<b>Defeathering#</b>	<b>Evisceration</b>	<b>Washing</b>	<b>Chilling</b>
Mean	6.81505115	4.170834346	1.540735312	2.919966832	2.574238328	2.664002739
Median	7.173475592	4.170915028	0.995635195	3.146128036	2.579783597	2.676091259
SD	1.112598967	0.694096517	0.906040819	0.793316118	0.296979432	0.630023145
95° perc	7.830002887	5.313414732	3.151232096	4.097512676	3.009558145	3.491361694
5° perc	4.044136728	3.090273684	0.995635195	0.995635195	2.301029996	2

\*Contamination levels significantly higher ( $p < 0.0001$ ); #Contamination levels significantly lower ( $p < 0.0001$ ).