

Table S5. Comparison of Log₁₀ reduction observed in published articles dealing with *S. aureus* behaviour in sliced DCH and that predicted by the predictive models developed in the present work. Agreement was considered if the difference between the observed and predicted values were within ± 0.5 Log₁₀.

Reference	Packaging/model used	a _w	T (°C)	pH	Agreement between the observed and predicted Log ₁₀ reduction (%)
Untermann and Müller [18]	Air	0.890	20	5.6	86% (6/7)
Iacumin et al. [35]	Vacuum	0.910	4	5.79	83% (5/6)
			10		67% (4/6)
			15		83% (5/6)
			25		67% (4/6)
Christian et al. [16]	MAP (70:30 % N ₂ :CO ₂)	0.888	15	5.64-5.81	80% (8/10)
		0.890			90% (9/10)
		0.905			78% (7/9)
		0.921			78% (7/9)
		0.925			91% (10/11)