

## Supporting Information

### **A dual-channel “on-off-on” fluorescent probe for the detection and discrimination of Fe<sup>3+</sup> and Hg<sup>2+</sup> in piggery feed and swine wastewater**

Qing Fan<sup>a, b, 1</sup>, Guang-Ming Bao<sup>a, c, 1</sup>, Si-Han Li<sup>a</sup>, Si-Yi Liu<sup>a</sup>, Xin-Ru Cai<sup>a</sup>, Yi-Fan Xia<sup>b</sup>, Wei Li<sup>b</sup>,  
Xiao-Ying Wang<sup>a</sup>, Ke Deng<sup>a</sup>, Hou-Qun Yuan<sup>b, c, \*</sup>

*<sup>a</sup> Institute of Veterinary Drug/Biotechnological Engineering Center for Pharmaceutical Research and Development, Jiangxi Agricultural University, Nanchang 330045, PR China.*

*<sup>b</sup> College of Chemistry and Materials, Jiangxi Agricultural University, Nanchang 330045, P.R. China.*

*<sup>c</sup> School of Biological Engineering and Food, Hubei University of Technology, Wuhan 430068, P.R. China.*

<sup>1</sup> These authors contributed equally to this work.

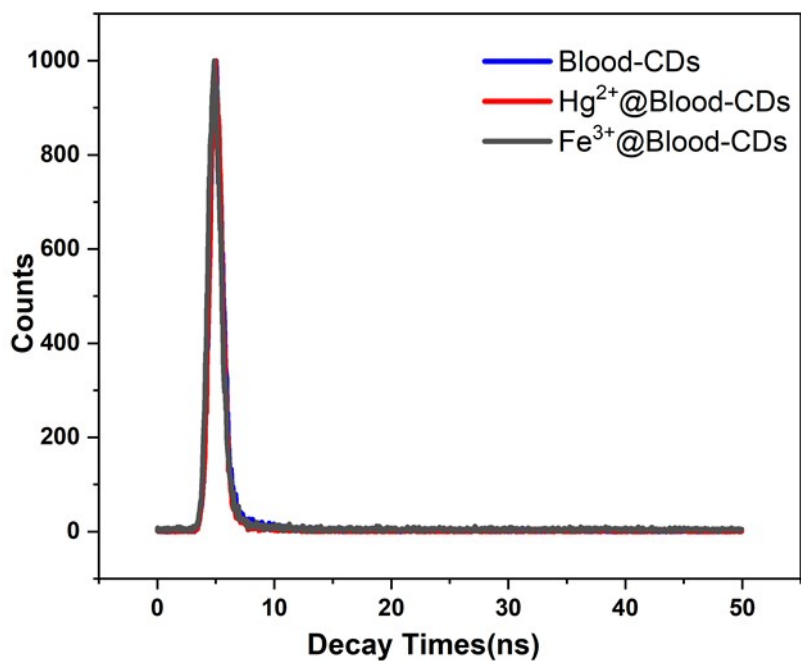
\*Corresponding authors. (E-mail: [hqyuan2014@126.com](mailto:hqyuan2014@126.com))

**Table S1**

Comparison of reported sensing systems for fluorescent CDs with current work.

Type of Probes	Carbon sources	Ion detected	Linear range( $\mu\text{M}$ )	LOD ( $\mu\text{M}$ )	QY(%)	Ref.
Feathers-CDs <sup>1</sup>	Pigeon feathers	Fe <sup>3+</sup> &Hg <sup>2+</sup>	0-1.6 & 0-1.2	0.0609 & 0.0103	24.87	36
Soot-CDs <sup>2</sup>	Candle soot	Fe <sup>3+</sup> &Hg <sup>2+</sup>	20–50	0.01&0.05	-	38
Leaves-CDs <sup>3</sup>	Bamboo leaves	Hg <sup>2+</sup> &Pb <sup>2+</sup>	0.001-1&0.0006-0.8	0.00022 & 0.00014	3.8&4.7	41
Soot-CDs <sup>4</sup>	Diesel soot	Fe <sup>3+</sup> &Hg <sup>2+</sup>	0-12	0.325& 0.898	8	58
Bluegrass-CDs <sup>5</sup>	Kentucky bluegrass	Fe <sup>3+</sup> &Mn <sup>2+</sup>	5–25	1.4 & 1.2	7	59
Bergamot-CDs <sup>6</sup>	Jinhua bergamot	Fe <sup>3+</sup> &Hg <sup>2+</sup>	0.025-100&0.01-100	0.075& 0.0055	50.78	63
Blood-CDs <sup>7</sup>	Chicken blood	Fe <sup>3+</sup> &Hg <sup>2+</sup>	0-120&0-100	0.23&0.17	13.78	This work

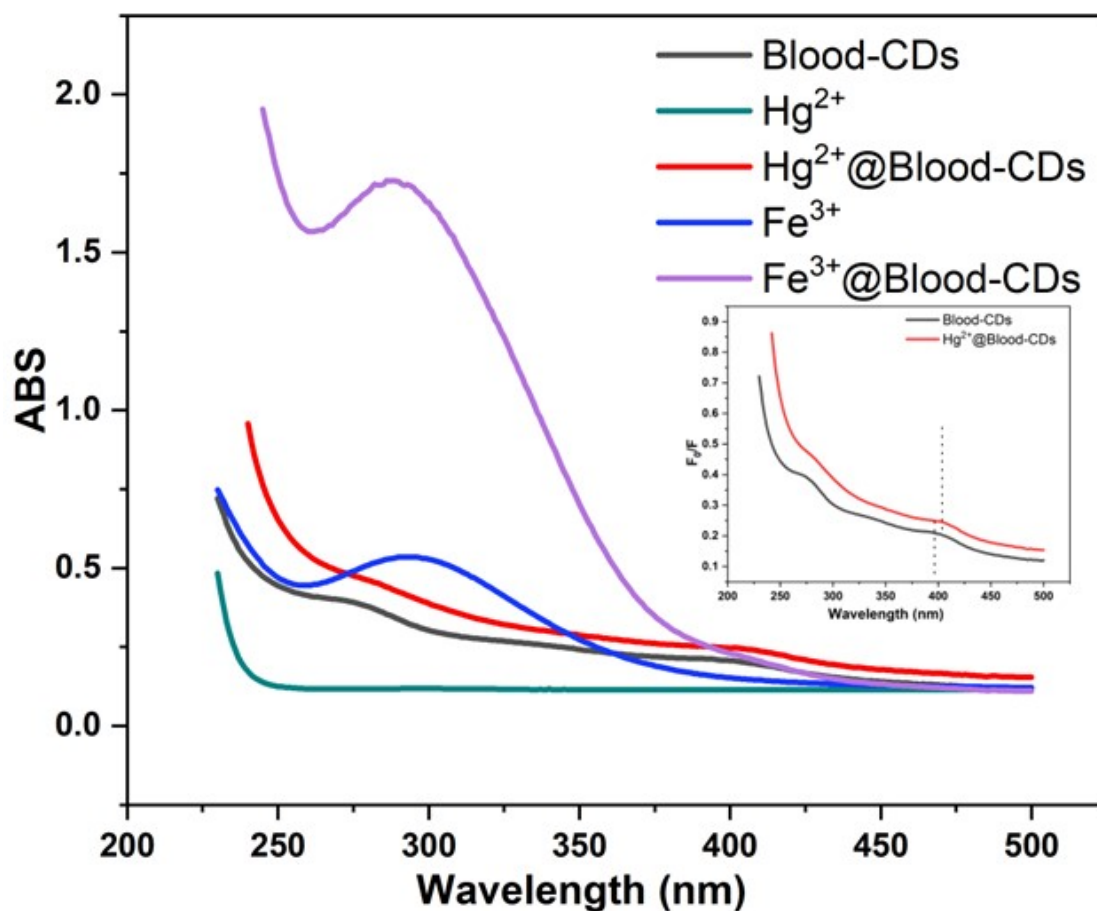
<sup>1</sup> Synthesis with Pigeon feathers as carbon source.<sup>2</sup> Synthesis with Candle soot as carbon source.<sup>3</sup> Synthesis with Bamboo leaves as carbon source.<sup>4</sup> Synthesis with Diesel soot as carbon source.<sup>5</sup> Synthesis with Kentucky bluegrass as carbon source.<sup>6</sup> Synthesis with Jinhua bergamot as carbon source.<sup>7</sup> Synthesis with Chicken blood as carbon source.



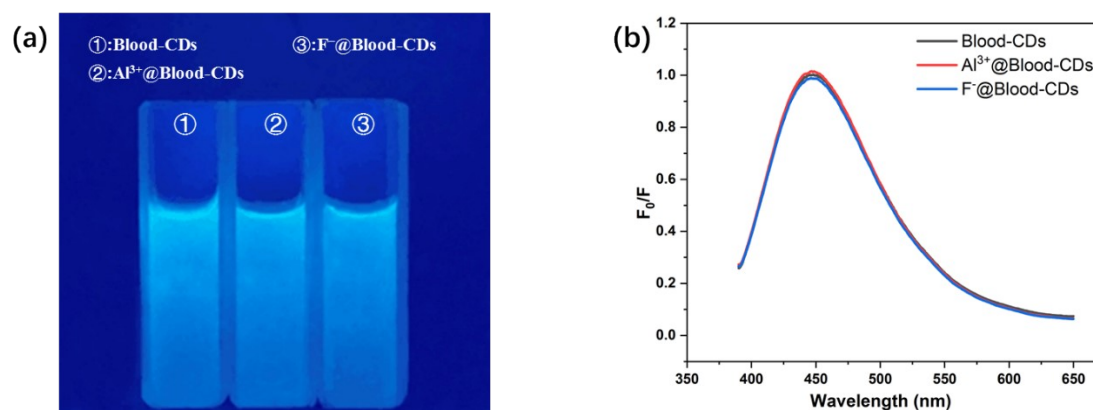
**Fig. S1.** PL decay curves of Blood-CDs, Hg<sup>2+</sup>@Blood-CDs, and Fe<sup>3+</sup>@Blood-CDs.

**Table. S2.** The lifetime values of Blood-CDs, Hg<sup>2+</sup>@Blood-CDs, and Fe<sup>3+</sup>@Blood-CDs.

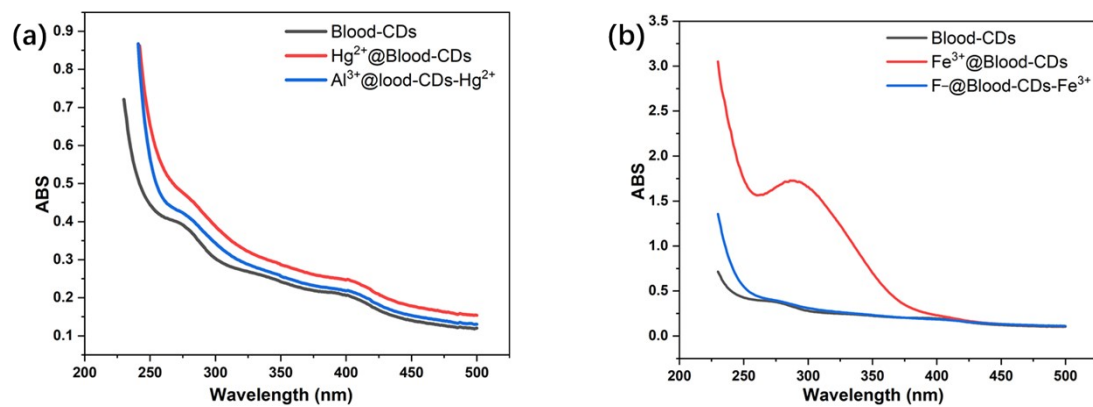
Sample	$\tau_1/\text{ns}$	$A_1/\%$	$\tau_2/\text{ns}$	$A_2/\%$	$\tau_{\text{average}}/\text{ns}$
Blood-CDs	0.544	93.48	3.118	6.52	0.712
Hg <sup>2+</sup> @Blood-CDs	0.493	92.77	3.004	7.23	0.674
Fe <sup>3+</sup> @Blood-CDs	0.511	93.04	3.013	6.96	0.685



**Fig. S2.** UV-vis absorption spectra of Blood-CDs,  $\text{Hg}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Hg}^{2+}$ @Blood-CDs,  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$ , and  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$ @Blood-CDs. The concentration of all the ions were 500  $\mu\text{M}$ .



**Fig. S3.** (a) Fluorescence of Blood-CDs,  $\text{Al}^{3+}$ @Blood-CDs, and  $\text{F}^-$ @Blood-CDs under UV lamp (365 nm); (b) Fluorescence spectra of Blood-CDs,  $\text{Al}^{3+}$ @Blood-CDs, and  $\text{F}^-$ @Blood-CDs under excitation at 370 nm.



**Fig. S4.** (a) UV-vis absorption spectra of Blood-CDs, Hg<sup>2+</sup>@Blood-CDs, and Al<sup>3+</sup>@Blood-CDs-Hg<sup>2+</sup>; (b) UV-vis absorption spectra of Blood-CDs, Fe<sup>3+</sup>@Blood-CDs, and F<sup>-</sup>@Blood-CDs-Fe<sup>3+</sup>.