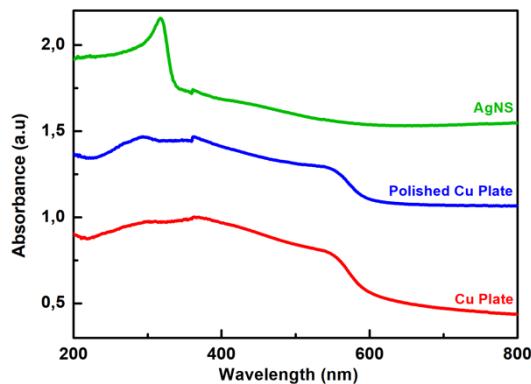


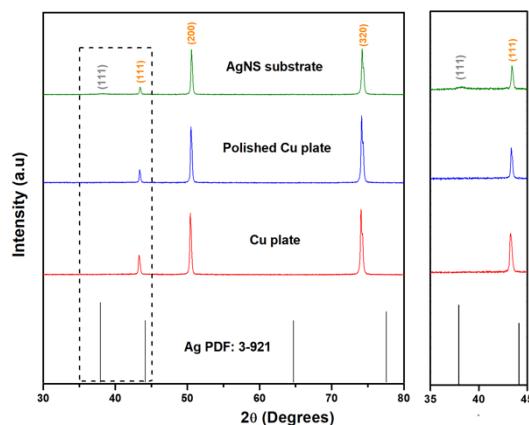
## Supporting Information

### Suitability study of Ag nanosheet SERS substrate as a screening method for imidacloprid after QuEChERS extraction

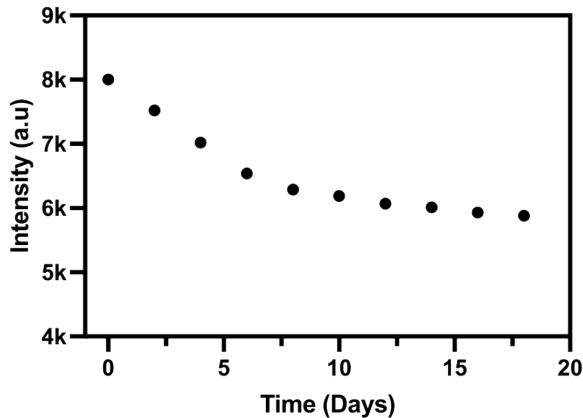
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**Figure S1** UV-Vis absorption spectra of the samples: Cu plate, polished Cu plate and the optimal AgNS substrate.



**Figure S2.** XRD pattern of the samples: Cu plate, polished Cu plate and the optimal Ag NS substrate.



**Figure S3.** Relationship between the SERS intensity at the peak of  $1610\text{ cm}^{-1}$  of methylene blue and the storage time.

Modes	Raman Shift ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ )			Assignments
	DFT	Experimental	SERS	
01	319	320		$\delta(\text{ring1})_{\text{out plane}}, \delta(\text{ring2})$
02	409	418	370	$\delta(\text{ring1})_{\text{out plane}}, \delta(\text{ring2}), \nu(\text{CCl})$
03	445	471	442	$\delta(\text{ring1})_{\text{out plane}}, \delta(\text{ring2})$
04	481	494	506	$\delta(\text{ring1})_{\text{out plane}}, \delta(\text{ring2}), \nu(\text{CCl})$
05	643	631	616	$\delta(\text{ring1})_{\text{in plane}}, \delta(\text{CN})$
06	670	658	665	$\delta(\text{ring1})_{\text{in plane}}, \delta(\text{CCN}), \nu(\text{CCl})$
07	697	690	694	$\delta(\text{ring1})_{\text{in plane}}, \delta(\text{NCNN}), \delta(\text{CN}), \nu(\text{CCl})$
08	778/751	750	759	$\delta(\text{ring1})_{\text{out plane}}, \rho(\text{CH}_2), \omega(\text{NO}_2)$
09	814	815	820	$\delta(\text{CH})_{\text{out plane}}, \rho(\text{CH}_2)$
10	841	831		$\delta(\text{CH})_{\text{out plane}}, \rho(\text{CH}_2)$
11	886	886		$\delta(\text{ring2}), \rho(\text{CH}_2)$
12	958	958	932	$\delta(\text{CN})_{\text{in plane}} \delta(\text{CH})_{\text{out plane}}, \omega(\text{CH}_2), \tau(\text{CH}_2)$
13	985	995	994	$\nu(\text{ring1}), \omega(\text{CH}_2)$
14	1057	1050	1046	$\nu(\text{NN}), \nu(\text{CN})$
15	1102	1096		$\nu(\text{ring2}), \tau(\text{CH}_2)$
16	1129	1107		$\nu(\text{ring1}), \nu(\text{CCl})$
17	1165	1139	1161	$\delta(\text{CH})_{\text{in plane}}$
18	1201	1200		$\tau(\text{CH}_2)$
19	1237	1243	1238	$\nu(\text{ring2}), \delta(\text{CH})_{\text{in plane}}, \tau(\text{CH}_2)$
20	1309	1276	1283	$\nu(\text{ring1}), \omega(\text{CH}_2), \tau(\text{CH}_2)$
21	1327	1298	1321	$\nu_s(\text{NO}_2), \omega(\text{CH}_2), \tau(\text{CH}_2)$
22	1390	1370	1363	$\nu_s(\text{NO}_2), \delta(\text{CH})_{\text{in plane}}, \omega(\text{CH}_2)$
23	1471	1449	1422	$\nu(\text{CN}), \omega(\text{CH}_2), \tau(\text{CH}_2)$
24	1498	1481	1494	$\nu(\text{ring1}), \delta(\text{CH}_2)$
25	1642/1615	1567	1560	$\nu(\text{ring1})$
26	1705/1687	1582	1600	$\nu_{as}(\text{NO}_2), \nu_{as}(\text{NCN}), \delta(\text{NH})$

**Table S1.** Experimental, calculated and SERS vibrational frequencies for imidacloprid.

Abbreviations:  $\nu$ , stretching;  $\delta$ , bending;  $\omega$ , wagging;  $\tau$ , twisting;  $\rho$ , rocking;  $s$ , symmetric mode;  $as$ , antisymmetric mode

