

### Accessory Publication



**Fig. S1.** Developmental stages of sacred lotus. Top panel (L–R): stage 0, small pre-thermogenic bud, enclosing small yellow receptacle; stage 1, larger bud, petals closed, yellow receptacle, onset of thermogenesis; stage 2, petals open between 2 and 12 cm, receptive stigmas, immature stamens appressed to yellow receptacle visible, peak thermogenesis. Bottom panel (L–R): stage 3, petals horizontal, mature stamens falling away from receptacle, thermogenic activity subsides; stage 4, petals and stamens senesce and abscise, leaving postthermogenic yellow/green receptacle; and stage 5, larger green receptacle (8–12 cm diameter).



**Fig. S2.** Sectioned green stage 5 receptacle showing the outer photosynthetic tissue layer, location of ovules and the spongy inner tissue. Scale bar is 1 cm.