Table S1. Morphological and electrical characteristics of nematocytes and characteristic data of L- and T-potentials

	Stauridiosarsia producta		*Coryne tubulosa*	*Dipurena reesi*
	Large cells	Small cells		
Size of cell soma (length, diameter; μm)	35, 22	18, 12	16–23, 10–16	~20, 12
Membrane resistance (MΩ)	31±14 (*N*=40)	50.8±19.6 (*N*=6)	35.6±12.4 (*N*=30)	33±10 (*N*=22)
Resting potential (mV)	Series 1: –58±13.3 (*N*=137) Series 2: –53.4±18.8 (*N*=78)		53.8±15.2 (*N*=34)	53±13 (*N*=53)
L-potentials (L-EPSP) at stimulation of distant nematocytes	Large cells			
	Without distant cyst-discharge*	With distant cyst-discharge*		
Amplitude (mV)	1–24 (*N*=164)	10–44 25±6.2 (*N*=146)	n.d.	38±4 (*N*=12)
Duration of 90% rise (ms)	5.2–24	2.5–7	n.d.	88±20 (*N*=12)
Duration at half amplitude of single peak (ms)	36–250	61–300	n.d.	66±30 (*N*=12)
Duration of decay (ms)	80–550	>500	n.d.	552±266 (*N*=12)
Latency (ms)	2.6-45 (*N*=164)	0.6-10.7 2.1±1.2 (*N*=146)	n.d.	93±6 (*N*=12)
Latency at stimulation of hair cells (ms)	9–100		13–98	n.d.
T-potentials, depolarizing component (T-EPSP)				
Amplitude (mV) (non-repetitive potentials)	20–45		⩽55	29±5 (*N*=9)
Duration of 90% rise (ms)	8–80 (incl. smooth start, see Fig. 4C 2)		n.d.	5±1.4 (*N*=9)
Duration at half amplitude of single peak (ms)	5–32 24±7 (*N*=6)		3–5	5.7±1.4 (*N*=9)
Duration of decay (ms)	~100		n.d.	n.d.
Latency at mech. stimulation of tentacular shaft (ms)	30–100		n.d.	n.d.
T-potentials, hyperpolarizing component (T-IPSP)				
Prevalence	8% of cells		100% of cells	100% of cells
Amplitude (non-repet. pot.) (mV)	–3		–11	–8
Duration at half amplitude (ms)	~100		40–50	40–120

*Most of the stimuli that did not evoke discharge of the stimulated nematocyte were purely mechanical; stimuli that evoked a discharge were mostly chemo-mechanical (see text). n.d.: not determined