

Inducing paralysis in Xenopus embryos in the absence of ion channel effects:

1) BDM – butanedione-monoxime: use at about 20 mM. Either (1) keep it as powder, and make up a fresh 0.5 M stock in water on the day of the experiment, vigorously vortex it for half a day at r.t., and use at 10 mM, or (2) can also use a 5 M DMSO stock. Note: this is bad for electrodes (such as vibrating probe)

2) N-benzyl-p-toluene sulphonamide (BTS): use at 10 microMolar  
Sigma-Aldrich S949760; stock = 2.61 mg + 1 ml DMSO; use 1:1000

3) Blebbistatin: stock = 5 mg + 50 microliters DMSO; use at 10 microliters + 10 ml 0.1X MMR. Sigma B0560.

4) alpha-bungarotoxin (1.25  $\mu$ M, Sigma T3019)