Antipyryl-arylaminosquaraines (11a–w) have been prepared by condensation of 3-antipyryl-4-hydroxy-cyclobutenedione (9a) with the primary aromatic amines 10a–w, using preferentially EtOH as the reaction medium. Surprisingly, 3-antipyryl-4-hydroxy-cyclobutenedione (9a) and 4-amantipyrylamine (13), under similar conditions, yielded 3-antipyryl-4-antipyrylamino-cyclobutenedione (14a), and not the expected squaraine. Reactions of 9a with the o-phenylenediamines 16a and 16b afforded the quinoxalines 17a and 17b, respectively.

Key words: Cyclobutenediones, 3-Antipyryl-4-hydroxy-cyclobutenedione, Squaraines, C,N-Squaraines, Antipyryl-arylaminosquaraines