

OLIGOMERIC AMIDOAMINES OR AMIDOQUATS FOR FABRIC OR HAIR TREATMENT COMPOSITIONS

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

[0001] The present invention relates to aqueous conditioning or softening compositions.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

[0002] Biodegradable softeners are described in the prior art. Compositions containing quaternary ammonium salts having at least one long chain hydrocarbyl group are commonly used to provide fabric softening benefits when used in a laundry rinse operation.

[0003] Oligomeric esteramines and oligomeric esterquats are compounds commonly described in the prior art to effect fabric softening. These compounds are sensitive to hydrolysis and can degrade over time. Consequently, softening compositions in which these ingredients are present lose some of their ability to soften fabric over time. Correspondingly, clear softening compositions obtained with oligomeric esterquats become turbid or cloudy due to the increased content of fatty acid generated by hydrolysis.

[0004] Accordingly, there is a need in the art for improving the stability of oligomeric-type amines and quats while retaining their softening efficacy and ability to provide clear or transparent or translucent compositions.

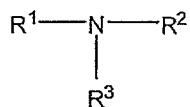
[0004a] GB-A-2170813 discloses polyamide resins for use as curing agents for polyepoxy compounds.

[0004b] US-A-2004/0048754 discloses compounds for a controlled release of active compounds, such as fragrances.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

[0005] In one aspect of the invention, there is provided an aqueous conditioning or softening composition comprising an oligomeric amidoamine and water, wherein the oligomeric amidoamine comprises a reaction product of (A), (B), and (C) wherein:

(A) represents an alkylene polyamine having the formula:

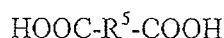


wherein R^1 , R^2 , R^3 are independently H or $-\text{R}^5\text{-N-(R}^4)_2$, wherein not all of R^1 , R^2 , and R^3 are H;

R^4 is H or $-\text{R}^5\text{-N-(R}^6)_2$;

R^8 is independently H or R^5 ; and R^5 is (i) a C_1 - C_{23} alkylene or alkenyl group optionally substituted or branched; or (ii) an aryl group;

- (B) represents a dicarboxylic acid or a reactive derivative of such acid having the formula:



wherein R_5 is defined as above; and

- (C) represents

- (i) a fatty acid having the formula:



wherein R^6 is a linear or branched C_6 - C_{23} alkyl or alkenyl group;
and/or

- (ii) an alkyl ester or glyceride of the fatty acid (i).

[0005a] The composition may be a fabric softening composition comprising an effective amount of the oligomeric amidoamine, an oligomeric amidoamine salt of the oligomeric amidoamine, and/or an oligomeric amidoquat of the oligomeric amidoamine. Alternatively, the composition may be a hair conditioning composition comprising an effective amount of the oligomeric amidoamine, an oligomeric amidoamine salt of the oligomeric amidoamine; and/or an oligomeric amidoquat of the oligomeric amidoamine.

[0005b] In another aspect, the present invention provides a method of softening fabrics comprising a step of contacting the fabrics to be softened with an effective amount of the fabric softening composition of the present invention.

[0005c] In a further aspect, the present invention provides a method of conditioning hair comprising a step of contacting the hair to be conditioned with an effective amount of the hair conditioning composition of the present invention.

[0005d] There is also provided the use of the oligomeric amidoamine of the invention as a softener in a fabric softening composition or as a conditioner in a hair conditioning composition.

[0005e] Preferred features are defined in the dependent claims.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

[0006] As used throughout, ranges are used as a shorthand for describing each and every value that is within the range. Any value within the range can be selected as the terminus of the range.

[0007] In one embodiment, the invention relates to compositions comprising oligomeric amidoamines, amidoamine salts, and oligomeric amidoquaternary ammonium compounds (amidoquats). More particularly, the invention relates to such oligomeric amidoamines, oligomeric amidoamine salts, and amidoquats which are obtained by the amidation reaction of an alkylene polyamine with a fatty acid in the presence of a dicarboxylic acid or diester. The oligomeric amidoamine may then be esterified with fatty alcohol or quaternized to form the amidoamine salt or the amidoquat, respectively.

[0008] In one embodiment, oligomeric refers to structures having 2 to 10 repeating units. In another embodiment, oligomeric refers to structures having 2 to 5, 2 to 4, or 2 to 3 repeating units.

[0009] The softening compositions of the invention comprising an oligomeric amidoamine compound are aqueous compositions which may be milky, opaque, clear, transparent or translucent. The compositions may also be liquid or solid.

[0010] In one embodiment, the invention provides hair treatment compositions comprising an oligomeric amidoamine compound, an oligomeric amidoamine salt, and/or an amidoquat compound that may be used in a conventional manner to condition hair.

[0011] In one embodiment, the invention provides fabric softening compositions comprising an oligomeric amidoamine compound, an oligomeric amidoamine salt, and/or an amidoquat compound that may be used in a conventional manner in the rinse cycle of a washing machine in the form of an aqueous dispersion, but also in the form of a liquid, powder, or solid product that can be used during the washing or drying steps of the fabric treatment process.

[0012] In a dryer, for example, the product may be in the form of a substrate, such as a sheet or sponge-type material, impregnated with the oligomeric amidoamine derivative.

[0013] The amidation reaction to provide the oligomeric amidoamine or amidoamine salt or amidoquat of the invention is obtained by the reaction of an alkylene polyamine as defined herein with a dicarboxylic acid or a reactive derivative as set forth above.

[0014] The polyalkylene polyamine includes, but is not limited to, diethylene triamine, dipropylene triamine, hexamethylene diamine, bis(hexamethylene) triamine, triethylene tetraamine, and tris(2-aminoethyl) amine.

[0015] The dicarboxylic acid includes, but is not limited to, succinic acid, malic acid, glutaric acid, adipic acid, and maleic acid. The short esters, anhydrides or chloride derivatives of these acids may be used as methyl or ethyl esters. In one embodiment, the dicarboxylic acid is adipic acid.

[0016] The fatty acid reactant may be derived from vegetable and/or animal oils and/or fats, such as, coconut, tallow, and palm, and may be partially or fully hydrogenated. The fatty acids may optionally be synthetic acids such as, lauric, palmitic, and oleic.

[0017] The molar ratio of dicarboxylic acid (B) to alkylene polyamine (A) is generally 0.2 to 1.2, preferably 0.5 to 0.8.

[0018] The molar ratio of fatty acid (C) to polyamine (A) is 0.2 to 2.0, preferably 0.5 to 1.5.

[0019] A fatty alcohol or polyalkoxylated fatty alcohol of the general formula $R^6-O-(CR^7HCH_2O)_n-H$ where $n=0$ to 10 and R^6 is as defined above, and R^7 is H or R^5 .

[0020] The oligomeric amidoamine may be used as an amine salt by neutralizing the amine with mineral or organic acids such as hydrochloric, sulfuric, phosphoric, citric or lactic acids. Alternatively, it may be used as a quaternary ammonium compound when quaternized with conventional alkylation agents such as methyl chloride or dimethyl sulfate. The oligomeric amidoamine or derivative may be obtained by controlled alkoxylation of the oligomeric amidoamine.

[0021] Clear or translucent compositions may be obtained by selecting a molar ratio as herein described and/or using unsaturated fatty acids or alcohols.

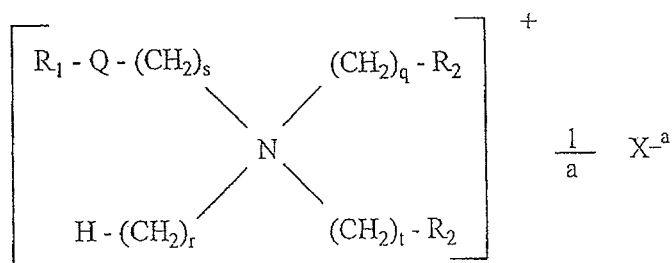
[0022] The oligomeric amidoamine is used as the main active ingredient in fabric softening compositions or hair conditioners that may also contain nonionic fabric conditioning surfactants, cationic softeners, co-softening ingredients such as silicones, anionic surfactants, and amphoteric surfactants; stabilizers such as non-ionic surfactants (ethoxylated fatty alcohols, amines or acids); inorganic salts or thickening agents to stabilize the fabric softening composition viscosity; pH adjusting compounds such as inorganic or organic acids or bases; and added benefit ingredients such as soil release polymers and antibacterial compounds.

[0023] Preferably cationic softeners are also present, and especially preferred are softeners such as esterquats, imidazolinium quats, difatty diamido ammonium methyl sulfate, and ditallow dimethyl ammonium chloride. Suitable cationic softeners are described in US 5,939,377; US 6,020,304; US 4,830,771; and US 5,501,806.

[0024] A preferred cationic softener for the invention is produced by reacting two moles of fatty acid methyl ester with one mole of triethanolamine followed by quaternization with

dimethyl sulfate (further details on this preparation method are disclosed in US 3,915,867). The reaction products are 50% diesterquat, 20% monoester form, and 30% triester form. In the present specification, the above reaction product mixture of triethanolamine esterquat is often referred to simply as esterquat. It is commercially available from Kao Corp. as Tetranyl AT1-75™

[0025] Another preferred softener comprises a fatty ester quaternary ammonium compound represented by the formula:



wherein Q represents a carboxyl group having the structure -OCO- and/or -COO-; R₁ represents an aliphatic hydrocarbon group having 8 to 22 carbon atoms; R₂ represents -Q-R₁ and/or -OH; q, r, s and t, each independently represent a number of 1 to 3; and X^{-a} is an anion of valence a; and wherein the fatty ester quaternary ammonium compound is comprised of a distribution of monoester, diester and triester compounds, the monoester compound being formed when each R₂ is -OH; the diester compound being formed when one R₂ is -OH and the other R₂ is -Q-R₁; and the triester compound being formed when each R₂ is -Q-R₁; and wherein the normalized percentage of monoester compound in the fatty ester quaternary ammonium compound is 31% to 37%; the normalized percentage of diester compound is 53% to 59% and the normalized percentage of triester compound is 8% to 12%; all percentages being by weight.

EXAMPLES

[0026] The following prophetic examples are illustrative only and do not limit the invention.

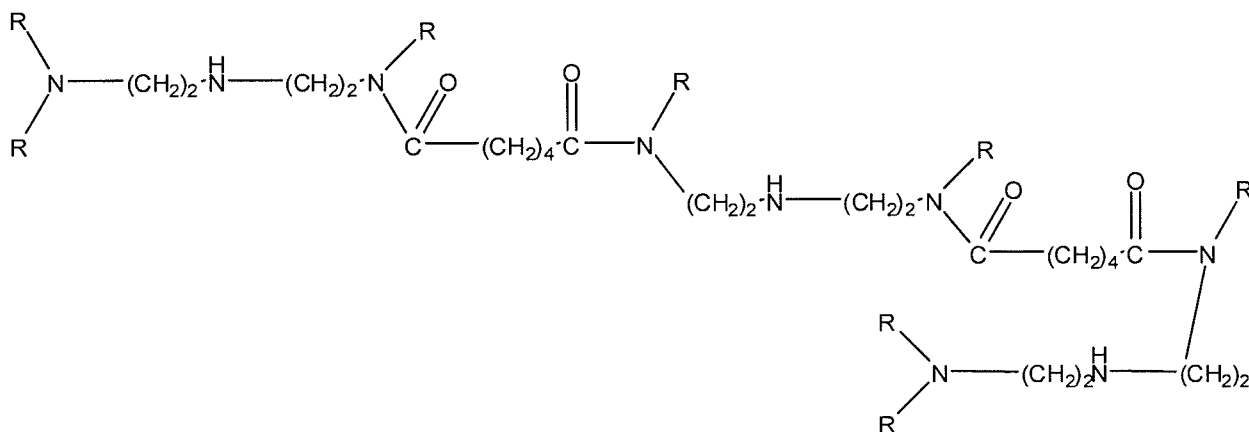
[0027] In Examples 1-4 in the table below, the materials can be reacted together at a combination of temperature and pressure for amidation of the amine.

Example	Amine (A)	Dicarboxylic Acid (B)	Fatty Acid (C)	Fatty Alcohol
1	Diethylene triamine 3 moles	Adipic acid 1.5 moles	H-tallow 1.5 moles	
2	Diethylene triamine 3 moles	Adipic acid 1.5 moles	H-tallow 1.5 moles	H-tallow 0.2 moles
3	Tris(2-amino ethyl) amine 4 moles	Adipic acid 3 moles	H-tallow 1.5 moles	
4	Tris(2-amino ethyl) amine 4 moles	Adipic acid 3 moles	H-tallow 1.5 moles	H-tallow 0.2 moles

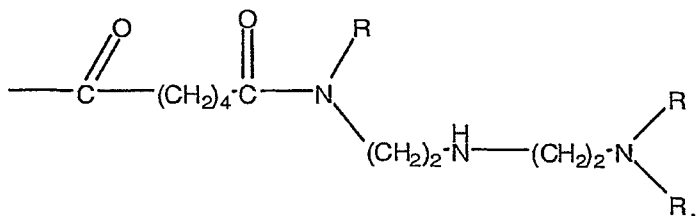
[0028] The resulting oligomeric amidoamines may be dissolved in low molecular weight alcohol (ethanol and/or isopropanol) to make handling easier.

[0029] The oligomeric amidoamines may be quaternized by mixing with 8% by weight isopropyl alcohol and a stoichiometric amount of dimethyl sulfate or methyl chloride to quaternize the amine sites.

[0030] An oligomeric amidoamine of Example 1 can have the following structure:

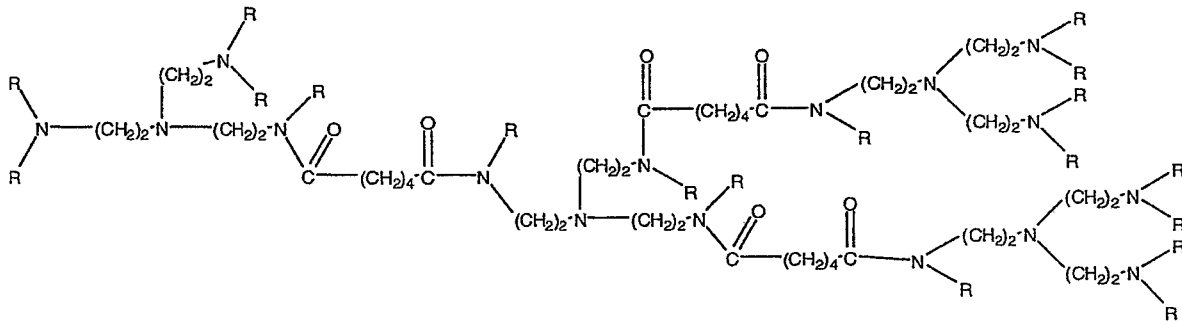


wherein R is H, a 1-22 carbon atom alkyl group, a 1-22 carbon atom alkenyl group, and/or

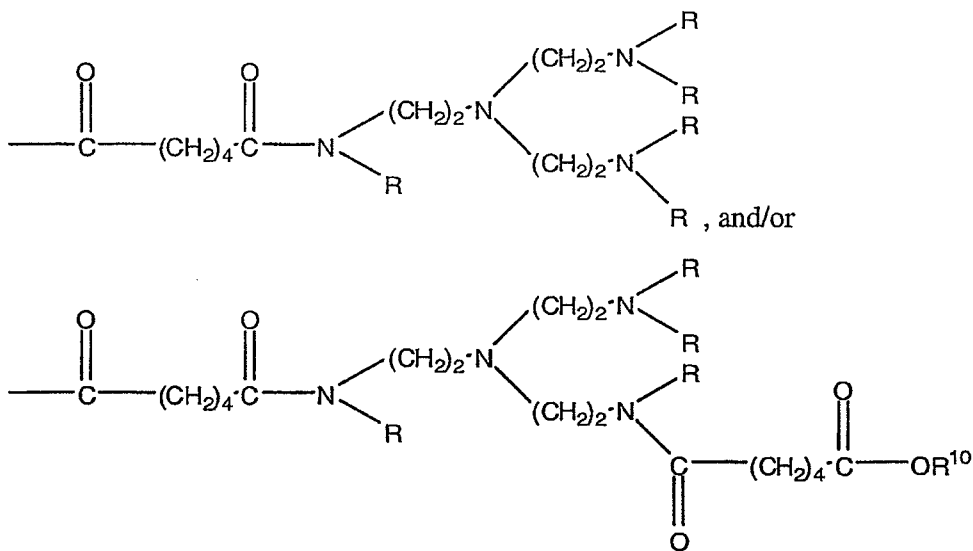


[0031] As alternatives to Examples 2 and 4, 0.6 moles of H-Tallow alcohol can be used.

[0032] An oligomeric amidoamine of Example 3 can have the following structure:



wherein R is H, a 1-22 carbon atom alkyl group, a 1-22 carbon atom alkenyl group,



wherein R¹⁰ is a 1-22 carbon atom alkyl group and/or a 1-22 carbon atom alkenyl group.

[0033] Aqueous fabric softeners can be prepared using the quaternized amidoamine of Example 2 with the dimethyl sulfate (Examples 5 and 6) and the quaternized amidoamine of Example 4 with the dimethyl sulfate (Examples 7 and 8). Amounts are weight percent based on the total weight of the composition. The compositions can be prepared by mixing of the ingredients.

Material	Ex. 5	Ex. 6	Ex. 7	Ex. 8
Quaternized amidoamine from Ex. 2	5	5	----	----

Quaternized amidoamine from Ex. 4	----	----	5	5
Glycerol monostearate	----	1	----	1
Perfume	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
Minors (dye, chelants, preservatives)	Q.S.	Q.S.	Q.S.	Q.S.
Water	Q.S.	Q.S.	Q.S.	Q.S.

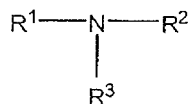
[0034] Other amidoamines can be prepared from the formulations in the table below (amounts are molar amounts):

Diethylene triamine	Tallow acid	Adipic acid	H-Tallow Alcohol
1	0.5	0.5	0
1	0.5	0.5	0.2
1	0.5	0.7	
1	1	0.7	
1	2	0.7	
1	2.5	0.7	
1	3	0.7	
1	0.5	1	
1	1	1	
1	2	1	
1	2.5	1	
1	3	1	
1	0.5	1.3	
1	1	1.3	
1	2	1.3	
1	2.5	1.3	
1	3	1.3	

What is claimed is:

1. An aqueous conditioning or softening composition comprising an oligomeric amidoamine and water, wherein the oligomeric amidoamine comprises a reaction product of (A), (B), and (C) wherein:

(A) represents an alkylene polyamine having the formula:

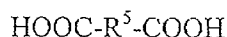


wherein R^1 , R^2 , R^3 are independently H or $-\text{R}^5\text{-N-(R}^4)_2$, wherein not all of R^1 , R^2 , and R^3 are H;

R^4 is H or $-\text{R}^5\text{-N-(R}^8)_2$;

R^8 is independently H or R^5 ; and R^5 is (i) a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_{23}$ alkylene or alkenyl group optionally substituted or branched; or (ii) an aryl group;

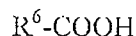
(B) represents a dicarboxylic acid or a reactive derivative of such acid having the formula:



wherein R_5 is defined as above; and

(C) represents

(i) a fatty acid having the formula:



wherein R^6 is a linear or branched $\text{C}_6\text{-C}_{23}$ alkyl or alkenyl group;
and/or

(ii) an alkyl ester or glyceride of the fatty acid (i).

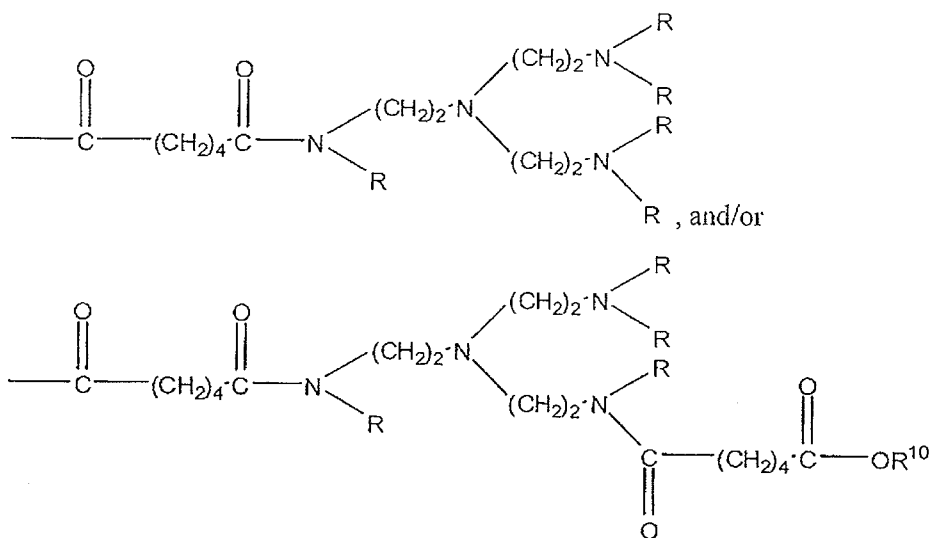
2. A composition according to claim 1, wherein the oligomeric amidoamine is in the form of a salt formed by neutralizing the oligomeric amidoamine with a mineral acid and/or an organic acid.
3. A composition according to claim 1, wherein the oligomeric amidoamine is in the form of a quaternary ammonium compound formed by quaternizing the oligomeric amidoamine with an alkylating agent.
4. A composition according to claim 1, wherein the molar ratio of dicarboxylic acid (B) to polyamine (A) is 0.5 to 0.8.

- [illegible]

$$\text{---C(=O)---(CH}_2)_4\text{---C(=O)---N(R)---(CH}_2)_2\text{---NH---(CH}_2)_2\text{---N(R)}_2$$

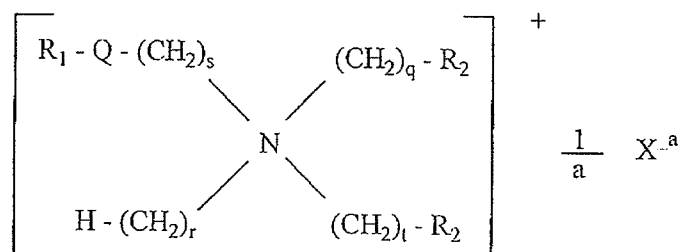
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- The chemical structure represents a poly(amide-imine) polymer. It features a main chain with alternating amide and imine linkages. The repeating units are connected by amide bonds (C=O-N) and imine bonds (C=N). The side chains are diverse, including alkyl groups (CH₂), aryl groups (R), and functional groups like hydroxyl (OH) and carboxylic acid (COOH). The structure is shown in a perspective view, with some groups highlighted in a light blue color.

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wherein R^{10} is a 1-22 carbon atom alkyl group and/or a 1-22 carbon atom alkenyl group.

9. A composition according to any foregoing claim which is a fabric softening composition comprising an effective amount of the oligomeric amidoamine of claim 1, an oligomeric amidoamine salt of the oligomeric amidoamine, and/or an oligomeric amidoquat of the oligomeric amidoamine.
10. The fabric softening composition of claim 9 further comprising a second softening compound comprising a cationic softener and/or a nonionic softener.
11. The fabric softening composition of claim 10, wherein the second softening compound comprises a compound represented by the formula:

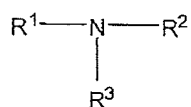


wherein Q represents a carboxyl group having the structure $-\text{OCO}-$ and/or $-\text{COO}-$; R_1 represents an aliphatic hydrocarbon group having 8 to 22 carbon atoms; R_2 represents $-\text{Q}-R_1$ and/or $-\text{OH}$; q, r, s and t, each independently represent a number of 1 to 3; and

X^{-a} is an anion of valence a ; and wherein the fatty ester quaternary ammonium compound is comprised of a distribution of monoester, diester and triester compounds, the monoester compound being formed when each R_2 is $-OH$; the diester compound being formed when one R_2 is $-OH$ and the other R_2 is $-Q-R1$; and the triester compound being formed when each R_2 is $-Q-R1$; and wherein the normalized percentage of monoester compound in the fatty ester quaternary ammonium compound is 31% to 37%; the normalized percentage of diester compound is 53% to 59% and the normalized percentage of triester compound is 8% to 12%; all percentages being by weight.

12. A composition according to any one of claims 1 to 6 which is a hair conditioning composition comprising an effective amount of the oligomeric amidoamine, an oligomeric amidoamine salt of the oligomeric amidoamine, and/or an oligomeric amidoquat of the oligomeric amidoamine.
13. The hair conditioning composition of claim 12 further comprising a conditioning agent comprising a cationic or nonionic hair conditioner.
14. A method of softening fabrics comprising a step of contacting the fabrics to be softened with an effective amount of the fabric softening composition of any one of claims 9 to 11.
15. A method of conditioning hair comprising a step of contacting the hair to be conditioned with an effective amount of the hair conditioning composition of claim 12 or claim 13.
16. Use of an oligomeric amidoamine comprising a reaction product of (A), (B), and (C) wherein:

(A) represents an alkylene polyamine having the formula:

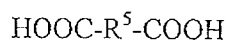


wherein R^1 , R^2 , R^3 are independently H or $-R^5-N-(R^4)_2$, wherein not all of R^1 , R^2 , and R^3 are H;

R^4 is H or $-R^5-N-(R^8)_2$;

R^8 is independently H or R^5 ; and R^5 is (i) a C_1 - C_{23} alkylene or alkenyl group optionally substituted or branched; or (ii) an aryl group;

- (B) represents a dicarboxylic acid or a reactive derivative of such acid having the formula:



wherein R_5 is defined as above; and

- (C) represents

- (i) a fatty acid having the formula:

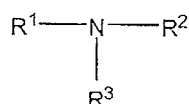


wherein R^6 is a linear or branched C_6 - C_{23} alkyl or alkenyl group;
and/or

- (ii) an alkyl ester or glyceride of the fatty acid (i),
as a softener in a fabric softening composition.

17. Use of an oligomeric amidoamine comprising a reaction product of (A), (B), and (C) wherein:

- (A) represents an alkylene polyamine having the formula:

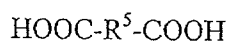


wherein R^1 , R^2 , R^3 are independently H or $-R^5-N-(R^4)_2$, wherein not all of R^1 , R^2 , and R^3 are H;

R^4 is H or $-R^5-N-(R^8)_2$;

R^8 is independently H or R^5 ; and R^5 is (i) a C_1 - C_{23} alkylene or alkenyl group optionally substituted or branched; or (ii) an aryl group;

- (B) represents a dicarboxylic acid or a reactive derivative of such acid having the formula:



wherein R_5 is defined as above; and

- (C) represents

- (i) a fatty acid having the formula:



wherein R^6 is a linear or branched C_6 - C_{23} alkyl or alkenyl group;
and/or

(ii) an alkyl ester or glyceride of the fatty acid (i),
as a conditioner in a hair conditioning composition.