NEWS RELEASE

Darling Ingredients Introduces Nextida® NxCogni™, the First Targeted Collagen Peptide Designed to Support Clarity and Cognitive Resilience

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Non-stimulant, collagen-based dietary ingredient to support daily cognitive well-being

IRVING, Texas--(BUSINESS WIRE)-- **Darling Ingredients Inc.** (NYSE: DAR) and its premier health brand Rousselot today introduced **Nextida NxCogni**, the first targeted collagen peptide ingredient formulated to support clarity and cognitive resilience. Built on the company's Nextida platform, Nextida NxCogni is a non-stimulant collagen peptide ingredient that targets neurosupportive benefits for use in dietary supplements.

“NxCogni is the latest example of how Darling Ingredients is redefining what collagen can do,” said Randall C. Stuewe, Chairman and CEO. “Through our proprietary innovation platform, we are building a growing portfolio of collagen peptide ingredients that target specific, science-backed benefits. Each new addition to the Nextida family expands our understanding of collagen's potential and reinforces our leadership in creating the next generation of nutritional solutions derived from natural collagen.”

Nextida NxCogni is a targeted collagen peptide composition containing more than 10 neurosupportive peptides at concentrations exceeding 100 times more than those found in standard hydrolyzed collagen. Its practical, low daily dose allows manufacturers to easily incorporate this versatile powder into capsules and tablets.

“Many products on the market today rely on stimulants to provide a brief energy spike, but Nextida NxCogni is built differently,” said Jeroen Colpaert, Executive Vice President at Rousselot. “By working with the brain’s natural pathways rather than acting as a stimulant, NxCogni is a natural-derived, evidence-based ingredient dedicated to supporting sustained focus and cognitive resilience.”

Clinical trials, beginning with an open-label human study in Dec. 2026, followed by two large-scale, randomized controlled trials planned for the first quarter of 2027, are expected to yield results that confirm Nextida NxCogni's strong preclinical research.

Nextida NxCogni is the latest breakthrough to emerge from the **Nextida platform**, following the successful launch of **Nextida GC**. As the platform's flagship ingredient, Nextida GC supports the body's natural GLP-1 response to help maintain healthy post-meal blood glucose levels. Nextida GC is patented in the U.S., Europe, China, Japan and Australia.

Rousselot will feature Nextida NxCogni at SupplySide Global in Las Vegas, Oct. 28–30, at booth 4443. Supplement manufacturers can learn more and request samples at **nextida.com/nxcogni**.

About Darling Ingredients

A pioneer in circularity, Darling Ingredients Inc. (NYSE: DAR) takes material from the animal agriculture and food industries, and transforms them into valuable ingredients that nourish people, feed animals and crops, and fuel the world with renewable energy. The company operates over 260 facilities in more than 15 countries and processes about 15% of the world's animal agricultural by-products, produces about 30% of the world's collagen (both gelatin and hydrolyzed collagen), and is one of the largest producers of renewable energy. To learn more, visit **darlingii.com**. Follow us on **LinkedIn**.

Cautionary Statements Regarding Forward-Looking Information

This release may contain "forward-looking statements," which include information concerning the Company's plans, objectives, goals, and strategies, including with respect to the collagen peptide ingredients discussed in this release and the targeted benefits of such products, and other information that is not historical information. All forward-looking statements are based upon current expectations and beliefs and various assumptions. There can be no assurance that the Company will realize these expectations or that these beliefs will prove correct. There are a number of risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from the results expressed or implied by the forward-looking statements contained in this release. Any forward-looking statement speaks only as of the date on which it is made, and the Company undertakes no obligation to update any forward-looking statements to reflect events or circumstances after the date on which it is made or to reflect the occurrence of anticipated or unanticipated events or circumstances.

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