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## PRESS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

New report links health care savings to dietary eye supplements Adoption of eye health supplements with lutein and zeaxanthin can result in significant health care savings.

**DES MOINES, Iowa** – September 24, 2013 – Kemin, maker of FloraGLO® Lutein and ZeaONE™ Zeaxanthin, applauds the findings of a new study released Sept. 23, which suggest that the use of supplements containing lutein and zeaxanthin could result in \$7.4 billion in health care savings in the U.S. between now and the year 2020.

The study, "Smart Prevention—Health Care Cost Savings Resulting from the Targeted Use of Dietary Supplements," by the research firm Frost & Sullivan, examines the link between the use of key dietary supplements and the reduction of health care costs associated with four separate disease-related conditions in people over the age of 55. The study includes a scientific assessment that provides a critical review and ranking of the relevant scientific literature for specific supplements to determine if there is an association between supplement intake and risk reduction of disease, as well as an economic analysis that determines potential net health care savings from the use of the reviewed dietary supplements due to avoided disease-related medical costs.

The study identifies age-related macular degeneration (AMD) and cataracts, both considered Age-Related Eye Disease (ARED), as primary causes for vision impairment and blindness, conditions that threaten a large percentage of the elderly population in the United States. The report cites that in the U.S. population of adults aged 55 and older, there is an expected event rate of AMD of 2.8 percent and of cataract of 33 percent.

"Over the next 15 years, age-related eye diseases are expected to triple due to an aging population and longer life expectancies," said Heather Richardson, Kemin product manager of FloraGLO brand lutein and ZeaONE brand zeaxanthin. "The Frost & Sullivan study accurately points out that lutein and zeaxanthin supplements are a small investment when it comes to increasing your quality of life, maintaining your independence and reducing potential costly health events."

Based on its review of the research literature on lutein and zeaxanthin, Frost & Sullivan determined that multiple research studies support the use of lutein and zeaxanthin as having a preventative effect on AMD. The preventative health care cost savings from lutein and zeaxanthin supplementation found in the study do not capture the significant physical and emotional distress, and the overall decline in quality of life that can result from ARED.

The study estimates \$7.4 billion in net savings over the next seven years from a reduction in the number of ARED incidents through the use of lutein with zeaxanthin. In those seven years, AMD incidents could be reduced by 23 percent, equating to 115,000 fewer incidents, and cataract incidents could be reduced by 15.3 percent, amounting to 7,659,000 fewer incidents, all through the use of dietary supplements containing lutein and zeaxanthin at preventive intake levels. While the study acknowledges that there is no government—recognized daily intake level for lutein and zeaxanthin, it references the American Optometric Association recommendation of 10 mg lutein and 2 mg zeaxanthin, daily, to achieve eye health benefits based on recent scientific studies, and considers these as preventative intake levels in its analysis.

Lutein and zeaxanthin can be obtained through the diet by eating green, leafy vegetables such as spinach and kale, and foods such as corn, eggs and peppers. However, research shows most Americans only get 10 percent of the lutein and zeaxanthin needed each day from dietary sources – just a fraction of the amount needed to protect their eyes as they age.

Kemin, producer of the most clinically researched, trusted and recommended lutein brand on the market<sup>1, 2</sup>, FloraGLO Lutein, and pioneer of the naturally sourced zeaxanthin, ZeaONE, notes that use of these nutrients provides an easy way to get the dietary amounts of lutein and zeaxanthin needed each day to reduce the risk of ARED. Sourced naturally from marigold flowers, FloraGLO and ZeaONE are trusted sources of quality lutein and zeaxanthin dietary ingredients that are found in leading eye supplements.

## Kemin - Inspired Molecular Solutions™

Kemin (www.kemin.com) provides "inspired molecular solutions" specifically developed to provide nutrition and health benefits for humans and animals. Committed to feed and food safety, Kemin maintains top-of-the-line manufacturing facilities where approximately 500 specialty ingredients are made for the global feed and food industries as well as the health, nutrition and beauty markets. A privately held, family-owned and operated company, Kemin has nearly 2,000 employees and operates in more than 90 countries with manufacturing facilities in Belgium, Brazil, China, India, Italy, Singapore, South Africa and the United States.

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- 1. Kemin Foods L.C. Internal Memorandum based on PubMed Search, September 2013
- 2. Based on the results of the National Disease and Therapeutic Index syndicated report among physicians who recommend a dietary supplement with lutein for eye health. June 2012- June 2013 (USA data).