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*Gaillardia pulchella*

[Synonyms : *Gaillardia bicolor*, *Gaillardia drummondii*, *Gaillardia picta*]

**BLANKET FLOWER** is an annual or perennial. Native to south-eastern North America it has daisy-like, yellow tipped, purplish-red petalled (occasionally all yellow) flowers.

It is also known as *Amr* (Arabic), Annual gaillardia, Beach red daisy, Firewheel, Gaillarda, *Gaillarde* (French), *Gaillardia spanilá* (Slovak), Indian blanket, *Kokarda sličná* (Czech), *Kokarda spanilá* (Czech), *Ra-na-zeeba* (Persian), Rose-ring gaillardia, and Showy gaillardia.

Warning – the leaves can cause dermatitis.

*Pulchella* is Latin (very pretty) meaning ‘pretty’.

For the Kiowa North American Indian tribe blanket flower brought luck. The tribe also believed that the dried flower head bore some similarity to the human head.

The dried and ground seeds were kneaded into a seed butter by the North American Havasupai who ate this preserve like a fruit butter.

Blanket flower has been responsible for an especially admired yellow honey – particularly on the Texas plains.