

BLANKET FLOWER

Blanket flower, or *Gaillardia pulchella*, is a brightly colored Florida native plant. While it is technically an annual, it self-seeds, so often will come up year after year. In southern and central Florida, it can flower year-round in full sun. It is very drought-tolerant. It attracts both bees and butterflies. Chickadees, titmice, and warblers like the seeds of this plant. The Kiowa Indians thought the flowers brought good luck. Both the Laguna and Acoma Tribes used the plant to wean infants and believed that an infusion of the plant would improve a drummer's skills.

