



# Blanket Flower

*Gaillardia pulchella*

**Plant Description** – native, herb/wildflower, deciduous, annual

**Height:** 1 – 1.5 ft **Width/Spread:** 0.5 – 1 ft



## Leaves

**Shape:** lanceolate

**Arrangement:** alternate

**Margin:** entire & serrate & lobed

**Form:** simple

**Leaf Description:** hairy branched stems usually become woody at the base; mostly leafy near the base and leafless at the top; lower leaves are petiolate (have a stalk) and upper leaves are sessile (attached directly to stem); leaves are hairy, gray-green, and up to 3 inches long, margins range from entire to toothed to lobed

## Flower/Bloom

**Flower Color:** red, yellow, brown

**In Bloom:** May - Aug

**Flower Shape:** radiate/ ligulate

**Flower(s) Description:** flower heads 1-2 inches in diameter with red center and yellow outer band; ray florets (narrow, petal-like, infertile floret that surround the disk) are red at the base and yellow at the tip, each with 3 teeth at the broad end; disk florets (tubular, fertile floret that forms disk) are reddish brown; flowers are sometimes all red or yellow



## Fruits & Seeds

**Spreads via:** Seeds

**Seed Type:** Dry seed pod

**Seed Season:** Summer - Fall

**Fruit and Seed Description:** seed pod is small, black, and awned (has hair- or bristle-like appendage)

## Ecological Benefits

Food source for Butterflies, Native Bees, Other Pollinators, and Other Birds

## Maintenance Notes

Dormant in winter; prefers average watering (*water two times per week during the summer and once per week during the rest of the year*)