



Gillespie Museum

# Firewheel

*Gaillardia pulchella*

# Firewheel

Gaillardia pulchella - About



Firewheel (*Gaillardia pulchella*) is an annual native to Florida and much of the United States. This plant sports bright red and yellow flowers that bloom through the summer and tolerates heat and dryness well, preferring dry plains and open areas.

# Firewheel

Gaillardia pulchella - History



The Kiowa people have historically used this plant as ornamentation around their homes. Native Americans have also used dried flowers in medicinal teas.

# Firewheel

## Medicinal Properties



Tea made from the roots has been used to treat gastroenteritis and parts of the root can be applied to the skin to treat various skin disorders. This plant has also been known to be a treatment for sore eyes. The Kiowa people consider this flower to be a sign of good luck.