

# Zachary Thomas Leasor

Department of Geography  
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## Education:

**The Ohio State University**                      **Columbus, Ohio**  
*Master of Arts (Geography):* August 2017  
Advisor: Dr. Steven Quiring

**Western Kentucky University**                      **Bowling Green, KY**  
*Bachelor of Science:* May 2015  
Major: Meteorology  
Minor: Water Resources

## Research Areas

Land-Atmosphere Interactions	Drought Monitoring
Hydroclimatology	Seasonal Forecasting
Applied Climatology	Water Resources

## Professional Experience

<b>Teaching Assistant</b>	<b>August 2019 - Present</b>
<i>Department of Geography, The Ohio State University</i>	
<b>Research Assistant</b>	<b>August 2017 - August 2019</b>
<i>NOAA MAPP funded project: Developing National Soil Moisture Products to Improve Drought Monitoring (PI: Dr. Trent Ford): August 2017 - Present</i>	
<b>Research Assistant</b>	<b>August 2015 - December 2016</b>
<i>NOAA/RISA funded project: Improved Seasonal Climate/Drought Forecasting in the SCIPP Region (PI: Dr. Steven Quiring): August 2015 - December 2016</i>	
<b>Intern</b>	<b>January 2014 - May 2015</b>
<i>Wx Or Not forecasting enterprise, Bowling Green, KY</i>	
<b>Director</b>	<b>January 2014 - January 2015</b>
<i>Stormtopper Network, Western Kentucky University, Bowling Green, KY</i>	
<b>Tour Guide</b>	<b>May 2013 - May 2014</b>
<i>Lost River Cave, Bowling Green, KY</i>	
<b>Volunteer</b>	<b>Summer 2012 - 2014</b>
<i>National Weather Service, Louisville, KY</i>	

## Refereed Publications

*Published or in press:*

## Zachary Thomas Leasor

**Leasor, Z. T.**, S. M. Quiring, T. W. Ford, and D. B. McRoberts (in press): Spatiotemporal Variations in Temperature Persistence in the South-Central United States. *Climate Research*, doi: doi.org/10.3354/cr01550.

Tian, L., **Z.T. Leasor**, and S. M. Quiring, 2017: Potential to improve precipitation forecasts in Texas through the incorporation of multiple teleconnections. *Int. J. Climatol.*, **37**, 3863-3872.

### ***Other Publications:***

**Leasor, Z.T.**, 2017: Spatiotemporal Variations of Drought Persistence in the South-Central United States. M.A. Thesis, *The Ohio State University*.

### **Awards and Honors**

2015-2016      Lechner Scholarship, Office of Graduate Studies, Texas A&M University

### **Poster Presentations**

**Leasor, Z.T.**, Quiring, S.M., and C. Zhao (2019) “Developing Daily Blended Soil Moisture Products in Near Real-Time.” 2019 National Soil Moisture Workshop, May 22-24, Kansas State University, Manhattan, KS.

**Leasor, Z.T.**, Quiring, S.M. (2019) “Improvements in Monthly Temperature Temperature Forecasts Utilizing Antecedent Soil Moisture: A Comparison of Observational and Modeled Soil Moisture Products.” Byrd Center Symposium: Climate Change Research at Ohio State, March 22, Byrd Polar & Climate Research Center, Columbus, OH.

**Leasor, Z.T.**, Quiring, S.M. (2018) “Improvements in Monthly Temperature Temperature Forecasts Utilizing Antecedent Soil Moisture: A Comparison of Observational and Modeled Soil Moisture Products.” 2018 American Geophysical Union Fall Meeting, December 10-14, Walter E. Washington Convention Center, Washington, DC.

**Leasor, Z.T.**, Quiring, S.M. (2018) “Improved Seasonal Forecasts Utilizing Antecedent Soil Moisture: A Comparison of Observational and Modeled Monthly Soil Moisture Products.” 2018 GeoWeek Graduate Student Forum, November 15, The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH.

**Leasor, Z.T.**, Quiring, S.M. (2018) “Improved Seasonal Forecasts Utilizing Antecedent Soil Moisture: A Comparison of Observational and Modeled Monthly Soil Moisture Products.” The 2018 MOISST Workshop: From Soil Moisture Observations to Actionable Decisions, June 4-7, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Lincoln, NE.

**Leasor, Z.T.**, Quiring, S.M. (2017) “Improvements in Monthly Temperature Forecasts Utilizing Antecedent Soil Moisture in the South-Central U.S.” The 2017 Workshop at MOISST: Integrating Diverse Sources of Soil Moisture Information, May 23-25, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, OK.

## Zachary Thomas Leasor

**Leasor, Z.T.,** Quiring, S.M. (2016) “Spatial Variations of Drought Persistence in the South-Central United States.” 2016 American Geophysical Union Fall Meeting, December 12-18, Moscone Convention Center, San Francisco, CA.

**Leasor, Z.T.,** Quiring, S.M. (2016) “A Monthly-to-Seasonal Temperature Forecast Utilizing Antecedent Soil Moisture Conditions in the SCIPP region.” The 2016 Workshop at MOISST: The Growing Science of Soil Moisture Sensing, May 17-18, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, OK.

**Leasor, Z.T.,** Quiring, S.M. (2016) “Temperature Persistence in the South-Central United States.” Third Annual Symposium of the Association of Geography Graduate Students, March 4, 2016, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX.

### Conference Paper Presentations

**Leasor, Z.T.,** Quiring, S.M. (2017) “Utilizing Objective Drought Thresholds to Improve Drought Monitoring with the SPI.” 2017 American Geophysical Union Fall Meeting, December 11-15, Ernest N. Morial Convention Center, New Orleans, LA.

**Leasor, Z.T.,** Quiring, S. (2016) “Improved Seasonal Forecasting in the SCIPP Region.” Southern Climate Impacts Planning Program Annual Stakeholder Services Committee Meeting, May 25-26, 2016, Tulsa, OK.

**Leasor, Z.T.,** Quiring, S. (2016) “Temperature persistence in the south-central United States.” The 19th Annual Student Research Week Symposium April 1, 2016, Texas A&M University, College Station TX.

**Leasor, Z.T.,** Durkee, J. (2015) “The potential influence of cyclogenesis on precipitation banding in winter storms: A local-scale analysis of a heavy snow event across the Ohio Valley during 22-23 December 2004.” 45<sup>th</sup> Annual WKU Student Research Conference, March 28, 2015, Western Kentucky University, Bowling Green, KY.

### Invited Talks and Seminars

Quiring, S.M., **Z.T. Leasor**, and C. Zhao (2018) “Introduction to Cloud Computing”. Ohio State Department of Geography Sharpe Innovation Commons Workshop Series. October 23, 2018. Columbus, OH.

Quiring, S.M., **Z.T. Leasor** (2018) “Developing a National Soil Moisture Network (NSMN)”. Aurora Fall Board Meeting Research Lightning Talks. October 16, 2018. Columbus, OH.

### Memberships

American Geophysical Union

**June 2016 - Present**

Geography Graduate Organization (OSU)

**September 2016 - Present**

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## Service

**Committee Member** **October 2018 - April 2019**  
Graduate Studies Committee Plus (Curriculum Development), The Ohio State University

**Graduate Studies Committee Representative** **June 2018 - June 2019**  
Geography Graduate Organization (GGO), The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH

**Judge** **September 2016**  
2016 Fall Student Poster Forum, The Ohio State University

## Professional Development

**US Forest Service Workshop** **May 15-17, 2018**  
*Monitoring Forest Soil Moisture for a Changing World*, Michigan Tech Research  
Institute, Ann Arbor, MI

**Midwest DEWS Workshop** **December 7-8, 2016**  
*NIDIS Midwest Drought Early Warning System Regional Workshop*, Cincinnati, OH

**Teaching Orientation** **August 2016**  
*University Center for the Advancement of Teaching (UCAT)*, The Ohio State University