

## **STATE CLIMATOLOGIST REPORT – OSC – David R. Legates**

From August through November 2009, precipitation has been well above normal. El Niño conditions are likely to continue into the summer but its impact this winter will be offset by trends in various indices (*i.e.*, the North Atlantic Oscillation, the Arctic Oscillation, and the Pacific-North American Pattern) which indicate temperatures will be below normal and precipitation will be above normal this winter in Delaware. The early outlook for this Summer is for above normal temperatures but ‘equal chances’ exist for precipitation trends in the Spring and Summer.

With the heavy rainfall, the Drought Monitor indicates that Delaware is not currently in drought conditions and such conditions are not likely to develop in the near future. We are in a much better situation than at this time last year where 42% of the state was in abnormally dry conditions. (A copy of presentation can be found at [www.dnrec.delaware.gov/Admin/Pages/WSCC.aspx](http://www.dnrec.delaware.gov/Admin/Pages/WSCC.aspx).)