



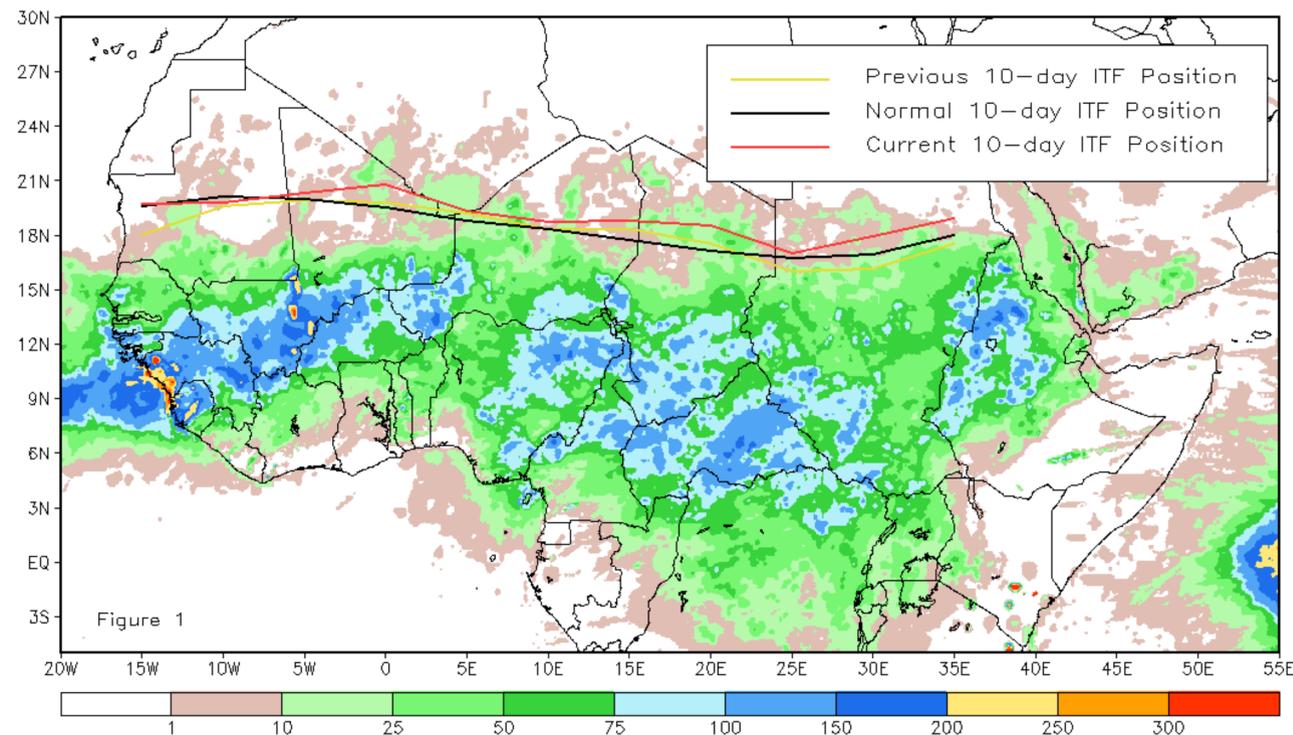
# CPC Africa Desk InterTropical (ITF) Front Analysis

## August 2012, Dekad 1

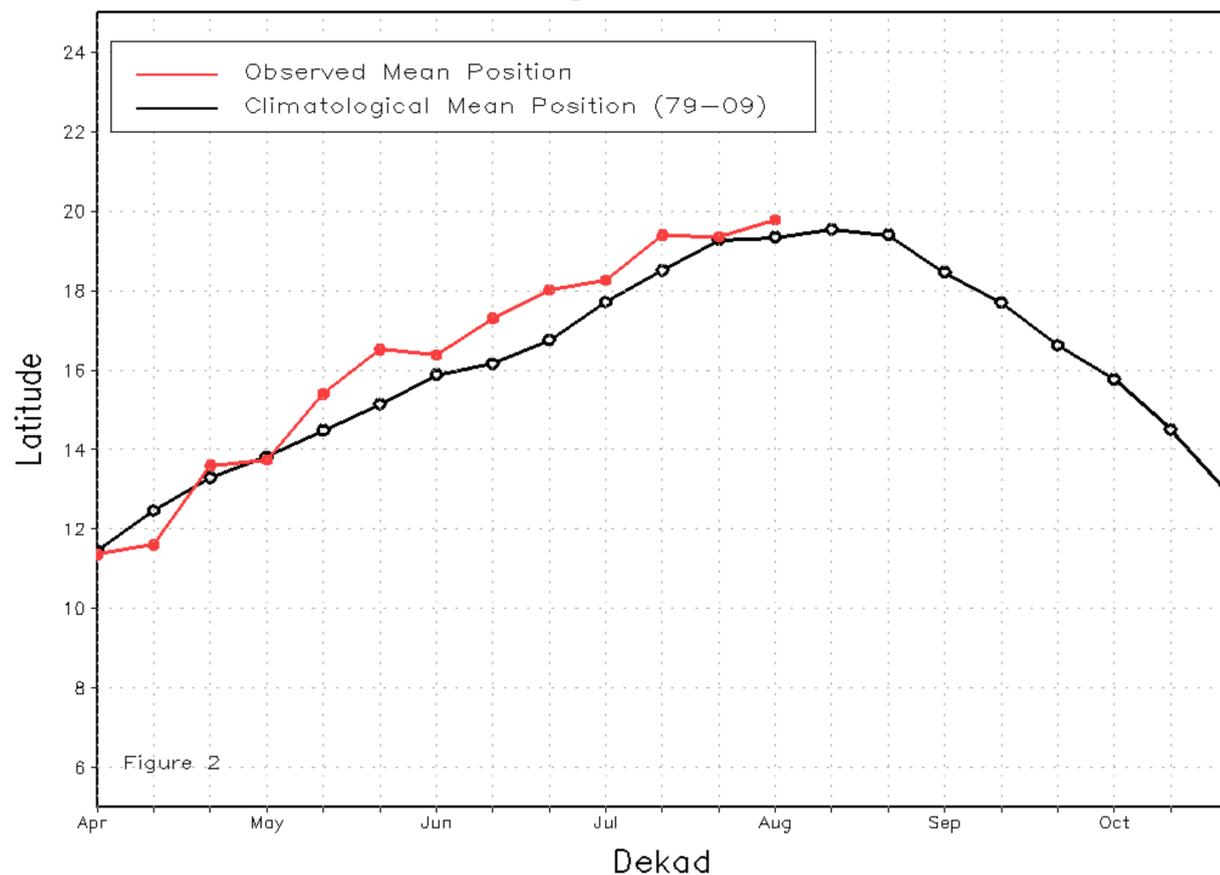
### Discussion:

From Aug 1-10, 2012, the ITF over Africa advanced considerably compared to its previous position in late July. The mean western portion of the ITF (10W - 10E) was near-average in the extreme western Sahel, but shifted anomalously poleward over parts of eastern Mali and western Niger. The anomalous position was associated with robust southerly winds, and anomalous rainfall in the region during early August. Overall, the mean western ITF position was approximated at 19.8 degrees latitude, nearly 0.5 degree above the climatological mean, and over 1.0 degree compared to its position last year during the first dekad of August (18.7). From 20E-35E, the mean eastern ITF position was approximated 18.1 and also remains above its climatological mean position (17.2) for early August. This dekad marks the 8th consecutive dekad where the ITF has been above-average in mean position across the east. Figure 1 shows the current ITF position relative to its long-term average position during the first dekad of August and its previous position during the third dekad of July. Figures 2 and 3 are time series, illustrating the mean latitudinal values of the western and eastern portion of the ITF, respectively, and their evolutions since April, 2012.

Current vs. Normal Dekadal ITF Position  
and RFE Accumulated Precipitation (mm)  
August 2012, Dekad 1



Mean Western Portion of the ITF: Averaged 10W to 10E  
As of: August 2012, Dekad 1



Mean Eastern Portion of the ITF: Averaged 20E to 35E  
As of: August 2012, Dekad 1

