



CPC Africa Desk InterTropical (ITF) Front Analysis

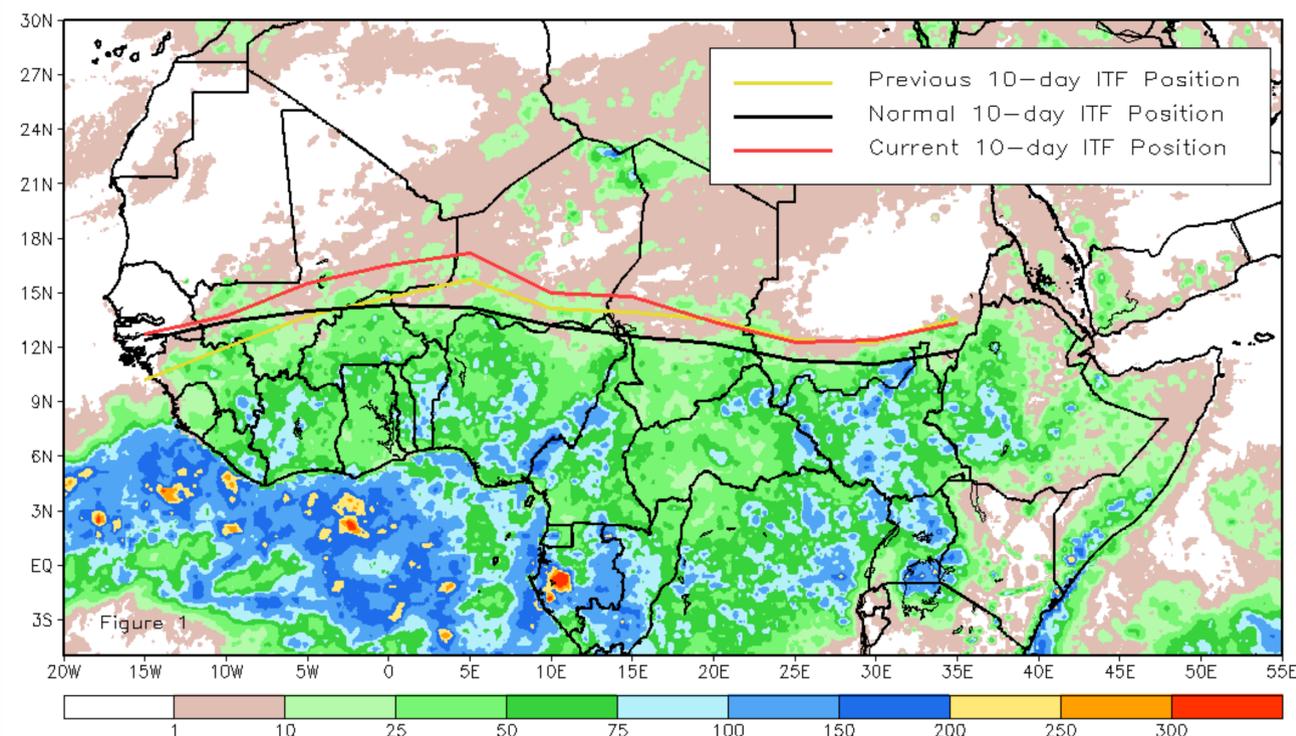
May 2014, Dekad 1

Discussion:

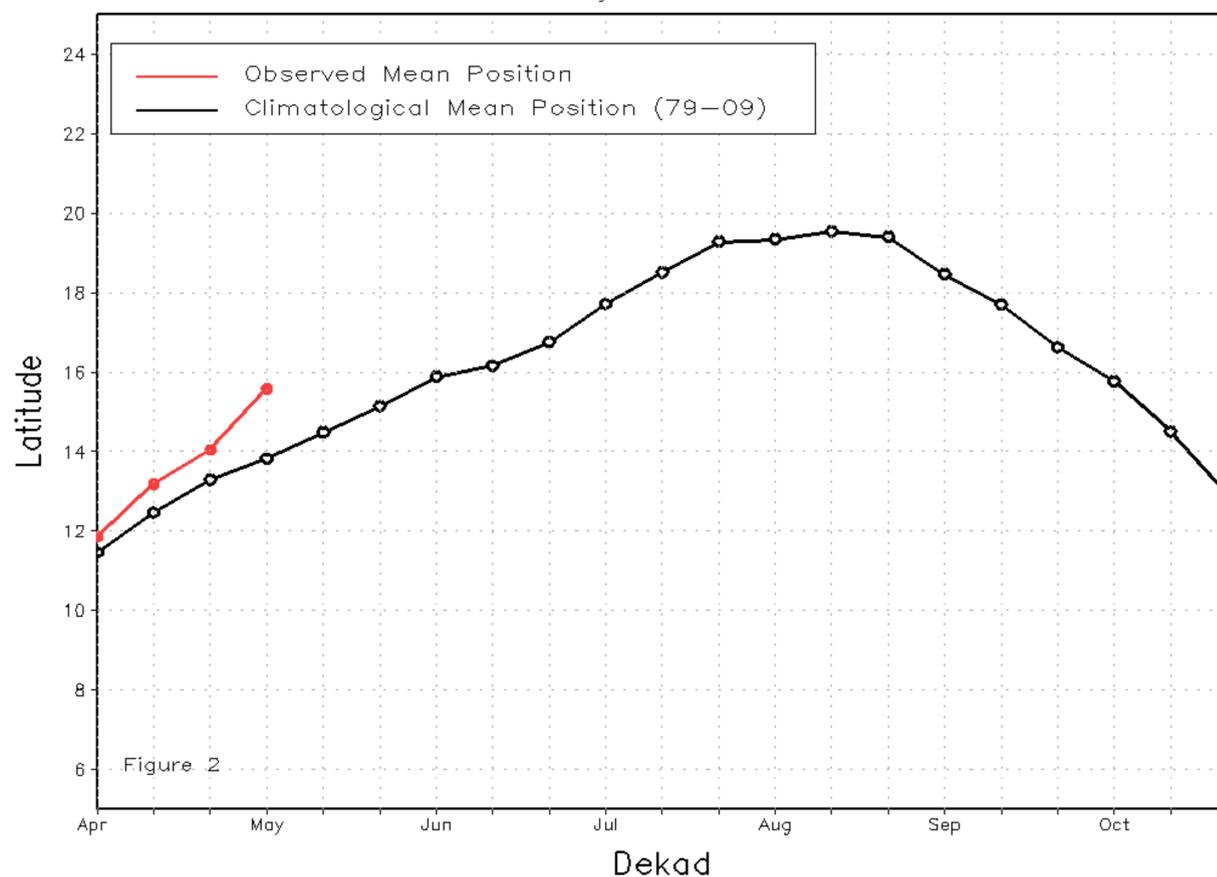
From May 1-10, 2014, the ITF continued its seasonal northward advancement, and exhibited accelerated shifts throughout many parts of western Africa. The mean western portion (10W-10E) of the ITF was approximately located at 15.6 degrees N, leading the climatological mean position by nearly 2 degrees latitude (mean = 13.8 degrees N). The most northerly ITF position during the most recent dekad was centered over Mali and Niger, where increased rainfall was estimated by satellites, and moist southerly lower-level winds were observed by both ground reports and models in the region. The mean eastern portion of the ITF was approximately located at 12.9 degrees N, which remained above the climatological mean for early May, but did not advance much since the previous dekad. Figure 1 shows the current position of the ITF relative to its long-term average for the first dekad of May and its former position during the third dekad of April. 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, 2014.

Current vs. Normal Dekadal ITF Position
and RFE Accumulated Precipitation (mm)

May 2014, Dekad 1



Mean Western Portion of the ITF: Averaged 10W to 10E
As of: May 2014, Dekad 1



Mean Eastern Portion of the ITF: Averaged 20E to 35E
As of: May 2014, Dekad 1

