



# CPC Africa Desk InterTropical (ITF) Front Analysis

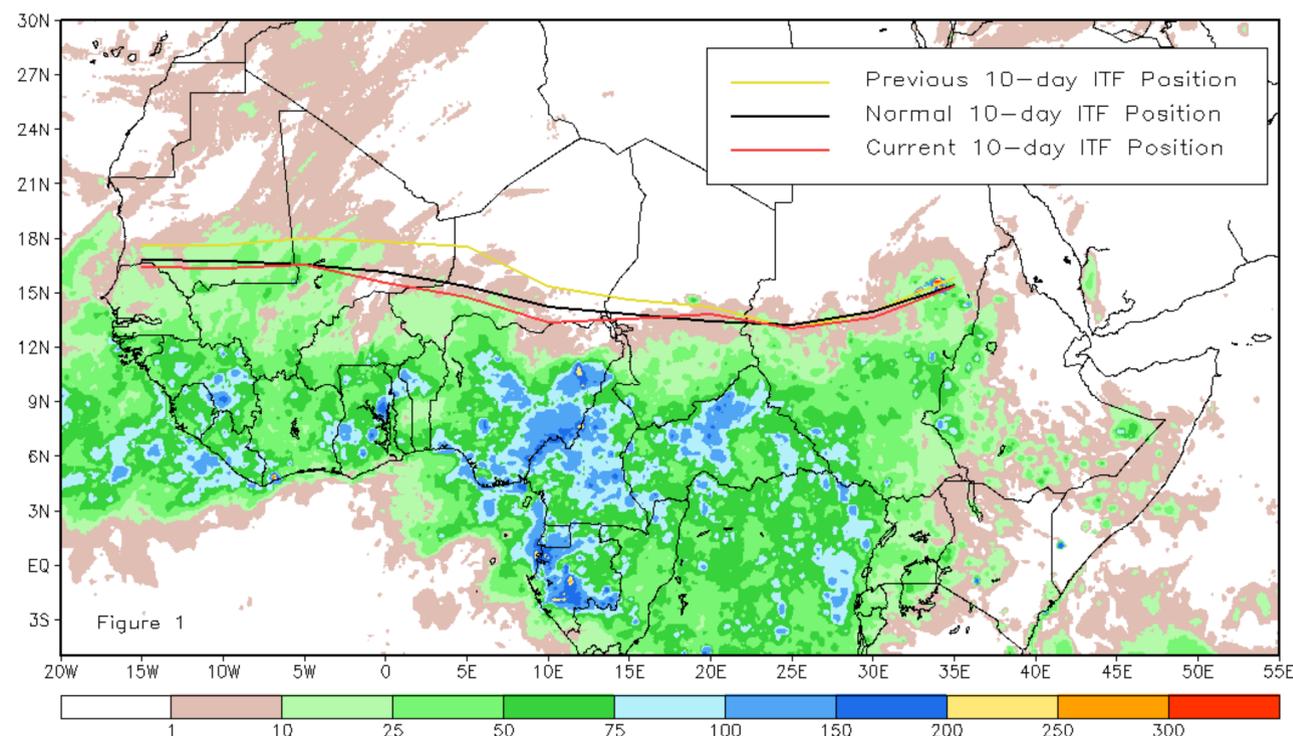
## October 2012, Dekad 1

### Discussion:

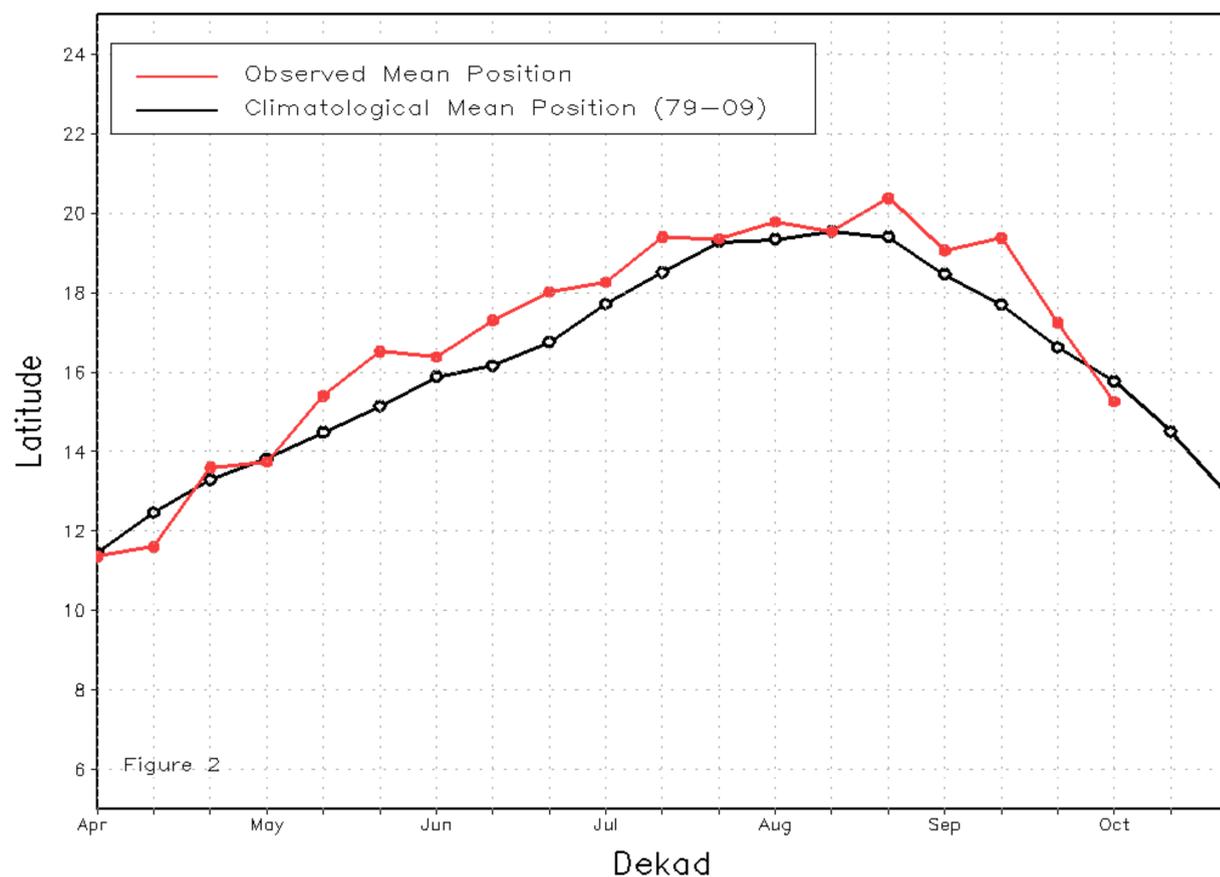
From October 1-10, 2012, the ITF experienced a rapid equatorward retreat relative to its latest position during the third dekad of September. This was partially attributed to the gradual relaxation of the St Helena and Mascarene highs in the southern Hemisphere, resulting in the weakening of southerly winds across the Gulf of Guinea and parts of eastern Africa. The mean western (10W-10E) portion of the ITF was located near 15.3 degrees North, which was south of the mean climatological position by 0.3 degree during this period of the year. The mean eastern (20E-35E) portion of the ITF approximated 13.9 degrees North and positioned itself to the south of the mean average position by 0.1 degree. Figure 1 shows the current ITF position relative to its long-term average position during the first dekad of October and its previous position during the third dekad of September. 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)

October 2012, Dekad 1



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



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

