



CPC Africa Desk InterTropical (ITF) Front Analysis

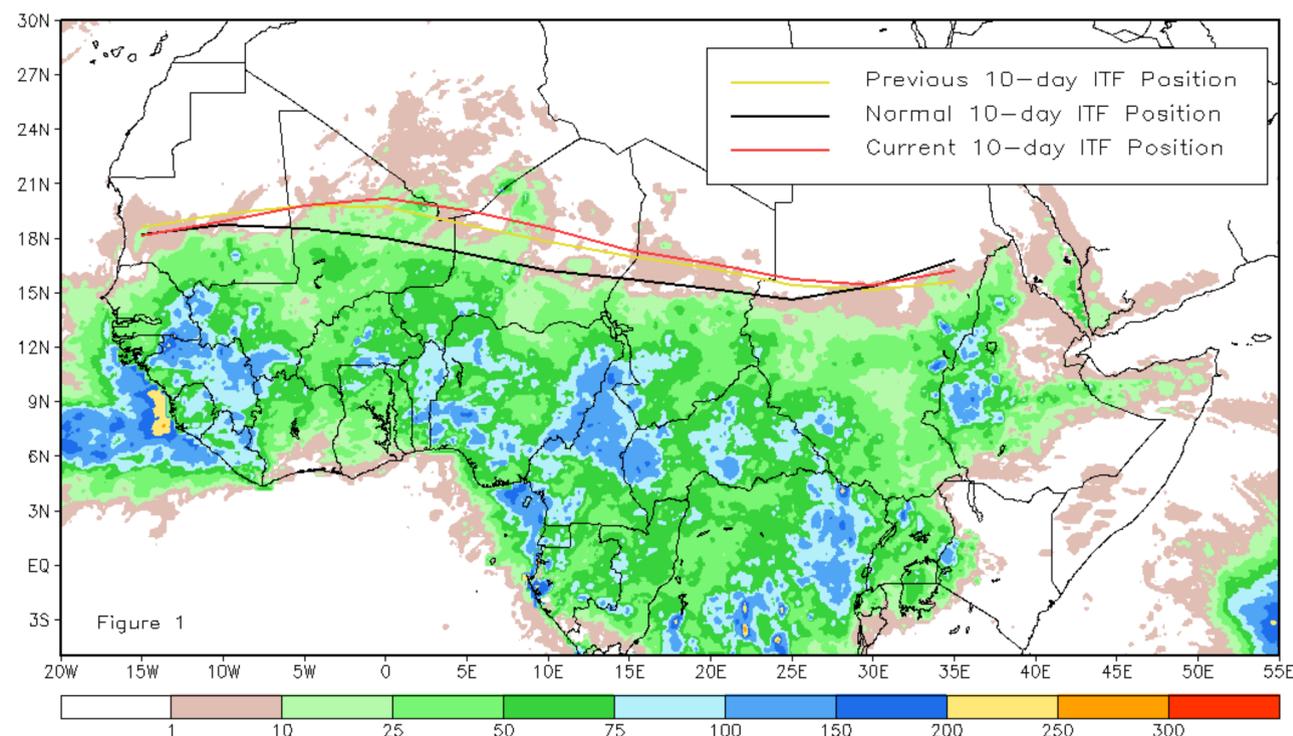
September 2012, Dekad 2

Discussion:

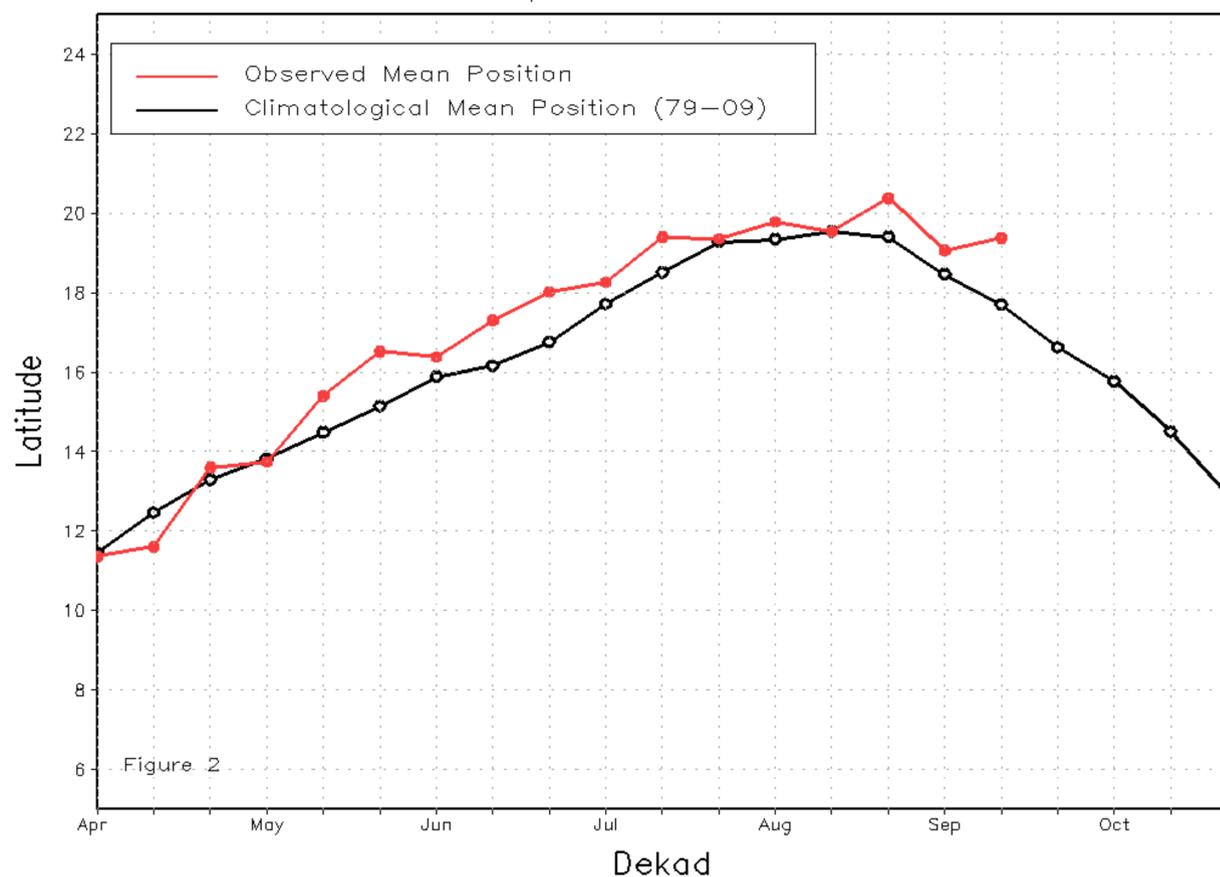
From September 11-20, 2012, the ITF anomalously pushed poleward after beginning its retreat equatorward during the first dekad of September. The mean western portion of the ITF (10W-10E) was located approximately at 19.4 degrees North which was 0.3 degrees north of the previous dekad and 1.7 degrees north of the mean climatological position for the second dekad of September. The northward push of the ITF across West Africa caused by strong southerly winds resulted in late and above-average rains across Mauritania, central and northern Mali and Burkina Faso. The mean eastern portion of the ITF (20E-35E) was located approximately at 16.0 degrees North which was 0.4 degrees north of the previous dekad and 0.5 degrees north of the mean climatological position. After being located south of climatology for the first time since May during the first dekad of September, the ITF observed a late surge north during the second dekad of September, resulting in an anomalously northern position. Figure 1 shows the current ITF position relative to its long-term average position during the second dekad of September and its previous position during the first 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)

September 2012, Dekad 2



Mean Western Portion of the ITF: Averaged 10W to 10E
As of: September 2012, Dekad 2



Mean Eastern Portion of the ITF: Averaged 20E to 35E
As of: September 2012, Dekad 2

