

Current vs Mean Position of the Africa ITF

As analyzed by the NOAA Climate Prediction Center

October 2009 Dekad 1

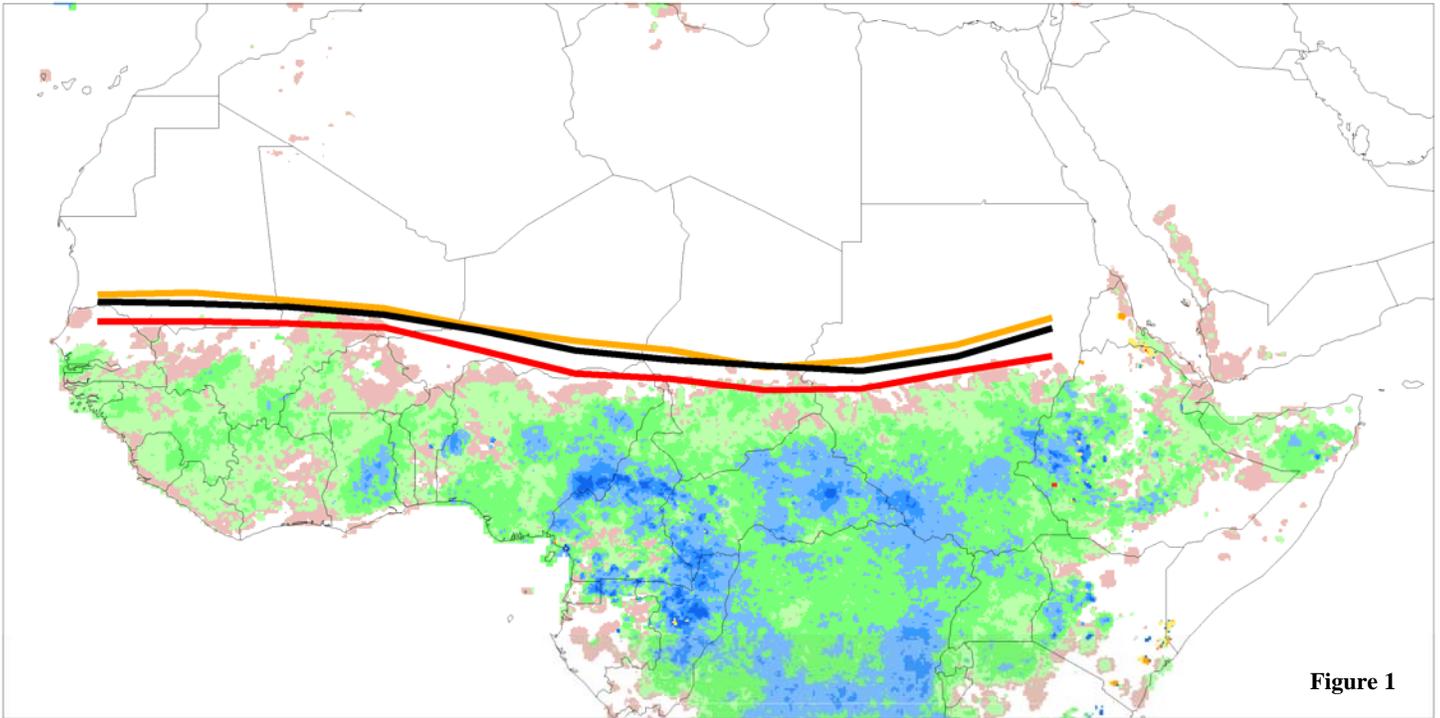


Figure 1

Accumulated Dekadal Precipitation:

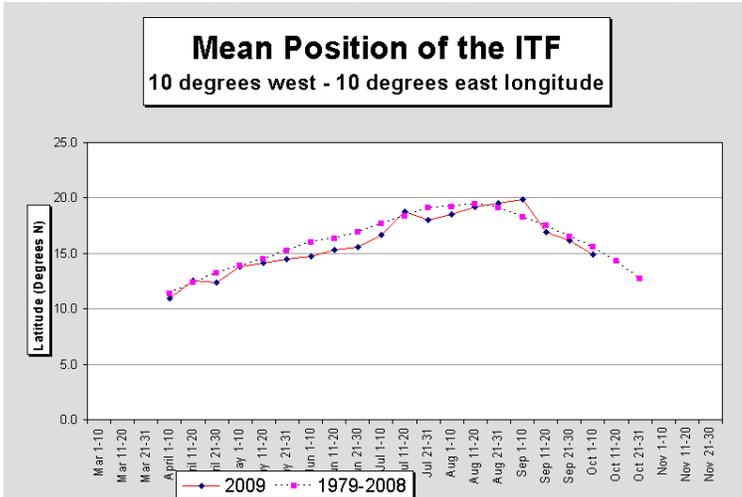
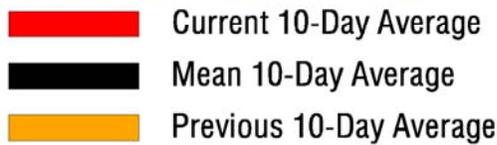


Figure 2

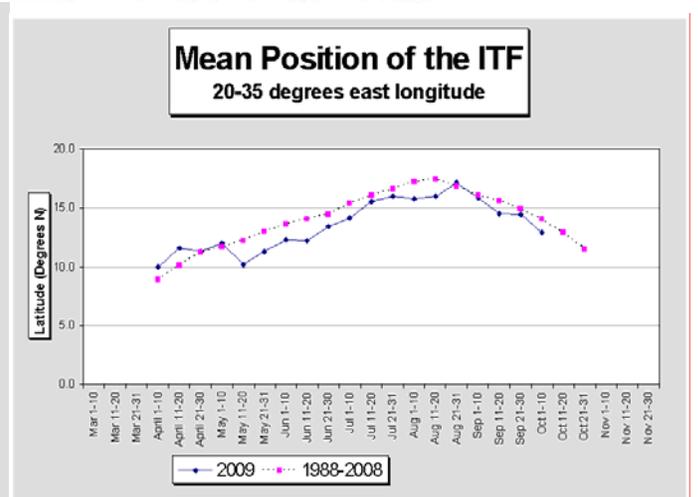


Figure 3

During the period from October 1-10, 2009, the African portion of the Intertropical Front (ITF) was located near 14.1N degrees, while the normal for this time of year is 15.1N degrees. The ITF has returned to the below normal position it maintained for the majority of the season. Figure 1 shows the current position compared to normal, and it is apparent from this diagram that the ITF is below its normal position across all of the continent. Comparing the current position with the 1979-2008 average, the historical average is around 14.0N in the east, and the current position is around 12.9N. In the west the ITF is at 14.9N, slightly south of its historical average position of 15.8N. Figures 2 and 3 show the delayed peak of the ITF this year, and the return to a below normal position.