

Current vs Mean Position of the Africa ITF

As analyzed by the NOAA Climate Prediction Center

October 2008 Dekad 3

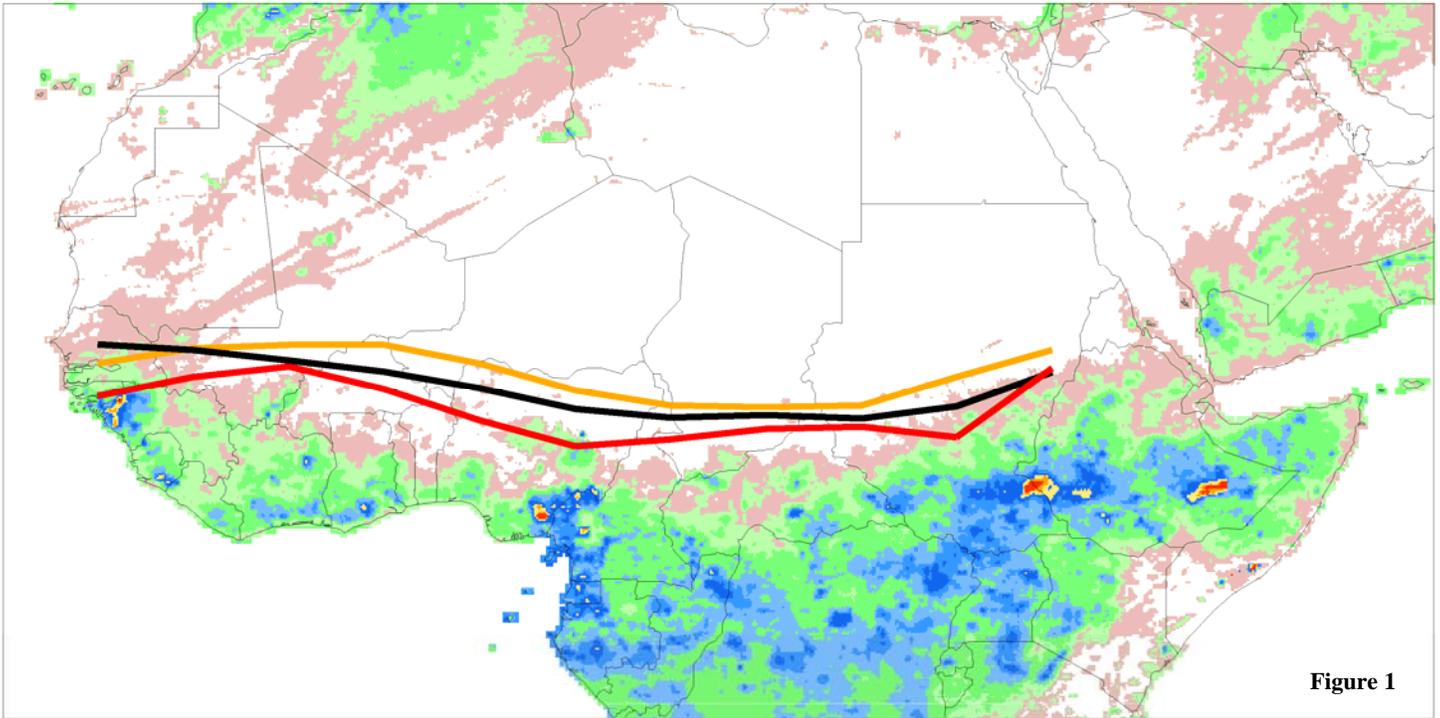


Figure 1

Accumulated Dekadal Precipitation:

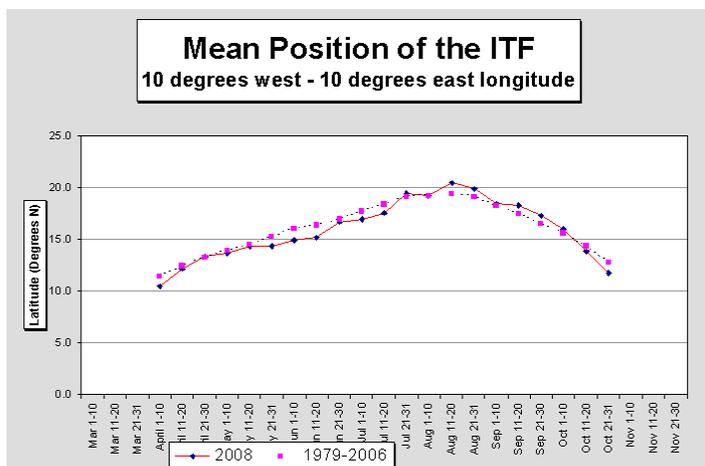
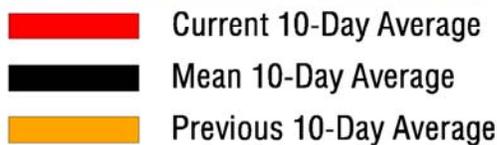


Figure 2

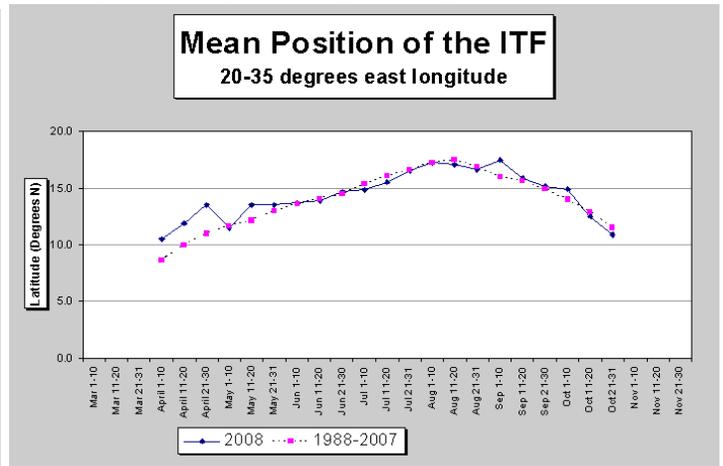


Figure 3

During the period from October 21 - 31, 2008, the African portion of the Intertropical Front (ITF) was located at around 11.2 degrees north latitude, compared to the mean of 12.4. This is approximately a 1.9 degree drop from last dekad, and marks the second consecutive dekad where the ITF was south of its normal position for that dekad. Figure 1 displays the current position compared to normal, with the ITF moving rapidly southward from its position last dekad across the continent. The ITF is now slightly south of average across all of Africa. The ITF is positioned at 11.7 degrees north in the west and 10.9 degrees north in the east. Compared with the 1979-2007 mean of around 13.0 degrees north in the west, and a normal position of around 11.5 degrees north in the east. This is the final ITF update for this season. Monitoring will resume the first dekad of April 2009.