

Current vs Mean Position of the Africa ITF

As analyzed by the NOAA Climate Prediction Center

September 2008 Dekad 1

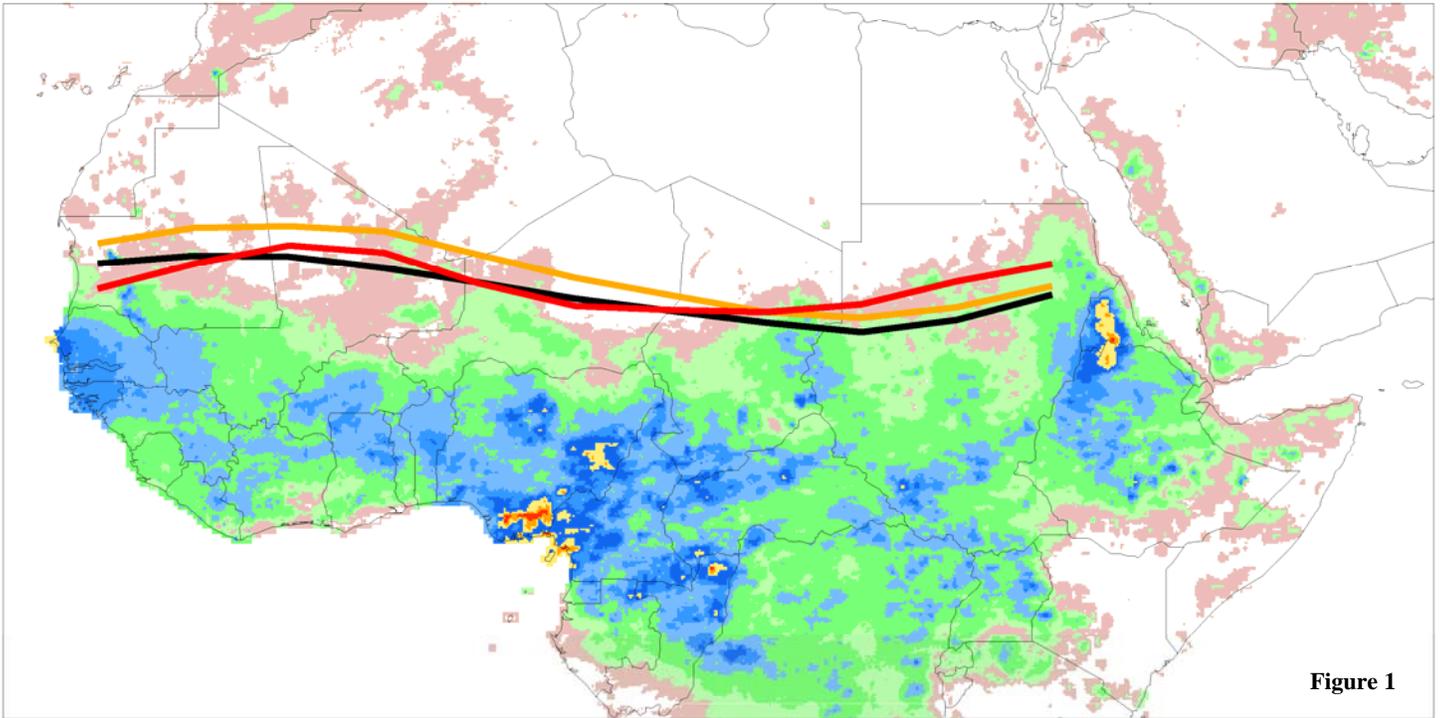


Figure 1

Accumulated Dekadal Precipitation:

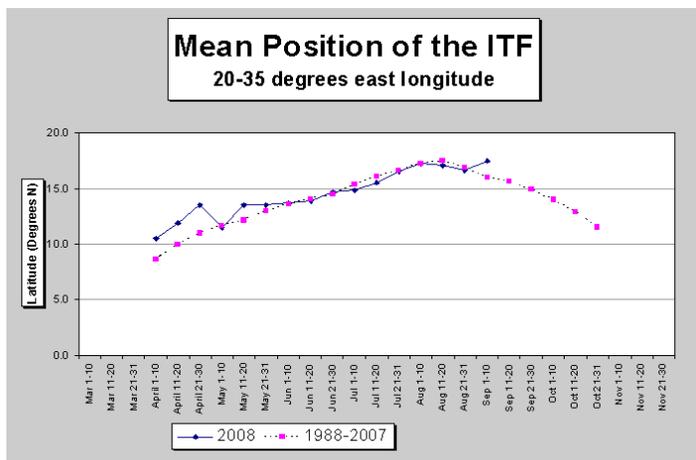
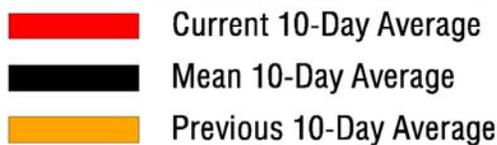


Figure 2

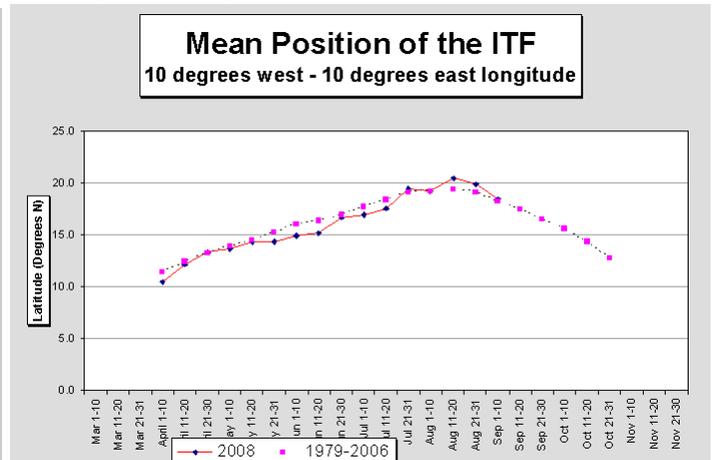


Figure 3

During the period from September 1-10, 2008, the African portion of the Intertropical Front (ITF) was located at around 17.8 degrees north latitude, compared to the mean of 17.4. Figure 1 displays the current position compared to normal, with the ITF moving southward across the west, but close to normal. In Sudan, there has been a strong push northward, with the ITF north of the average position this time of year. There were two days during the dekad when the ITF surged northward into the Sahara desert across Mali and Mauritania resulting in light precipitation in some of those areas. The ITF is positioned at 18.5 degrees north in the west and 17.4 degrees north in the east. Compared with the 1979-2007 mean of around 18.4 degrees north in the west, and a normal position of around 16.0 degrees north in the east.