

Current vs Mean Position of the Africa ITF

As analyzed by the NOAA Climate Prediction Center

September 2009 Dekad 1

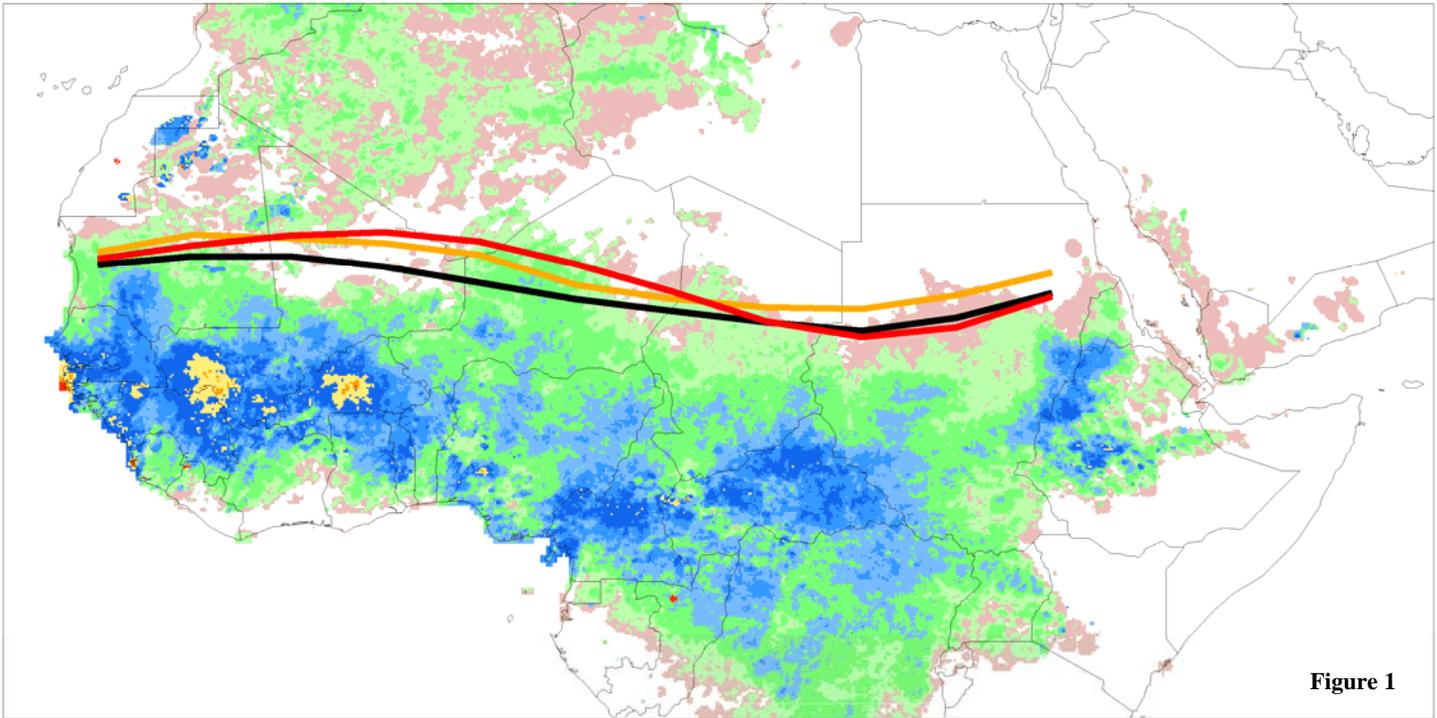


Figure 1

Accumulated Dekadal Precipitation:

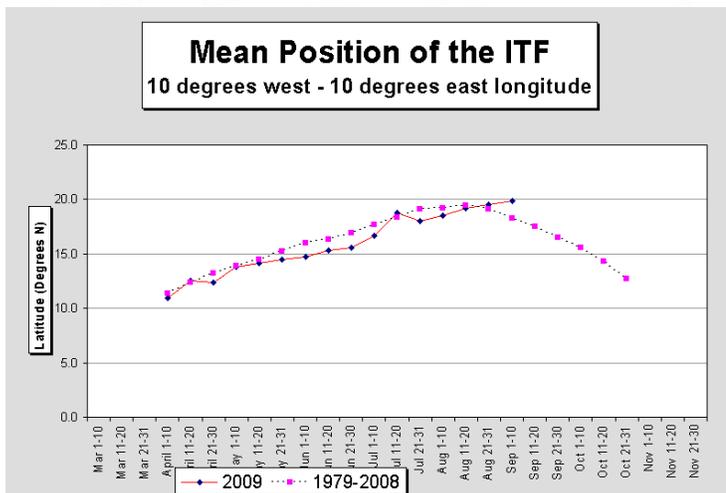
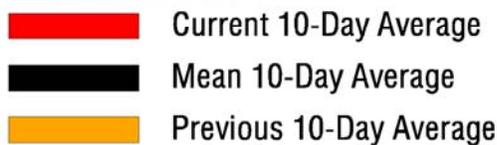


Figure 2

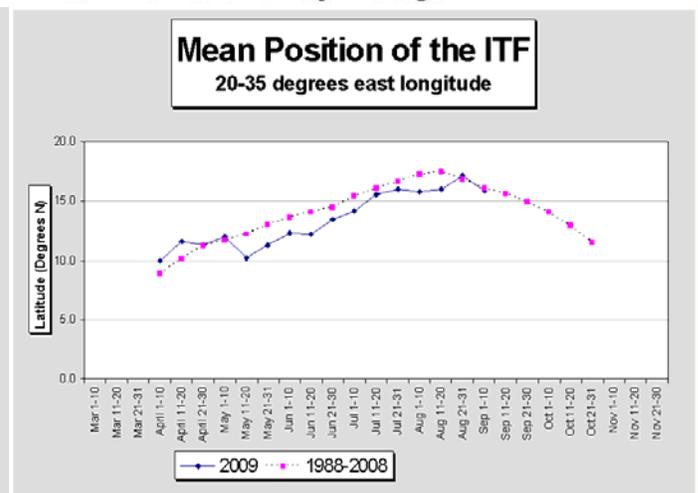


Figure 3

During the period from September 1-10, 2009, the African portion of the Intertropical Front (ITF) was located near 18.1N degrees, while the normal for this time of year is 17.4N degrees. This is the second time since early in the season that the ITF is north of its mean position. Despite being north of its average position for this time of year, it appears that the ITF is beginning to move southward, primarily in the east. Figure 1 shows the current position compared to normal, and it is apparent from this diagram that the ITF is near its normal position across the continent, with the exception of Mali and Niger, where the ITF is north of normal. Comparing the current position with the 1979-2008 average, the historical average is around 16.1N in the east, and the current position is around 15.9N. In the west the ITF is well north of its historical average position of 19.9N, compared to the current position, 18.4N. Figures 2 and 3 show the delayed peak of the ITF this year.