

Current vs Mean Position of the Africa ITCZ

As analyzed by the NOAA Climate Prediction Center

September 2007 Dekad 2

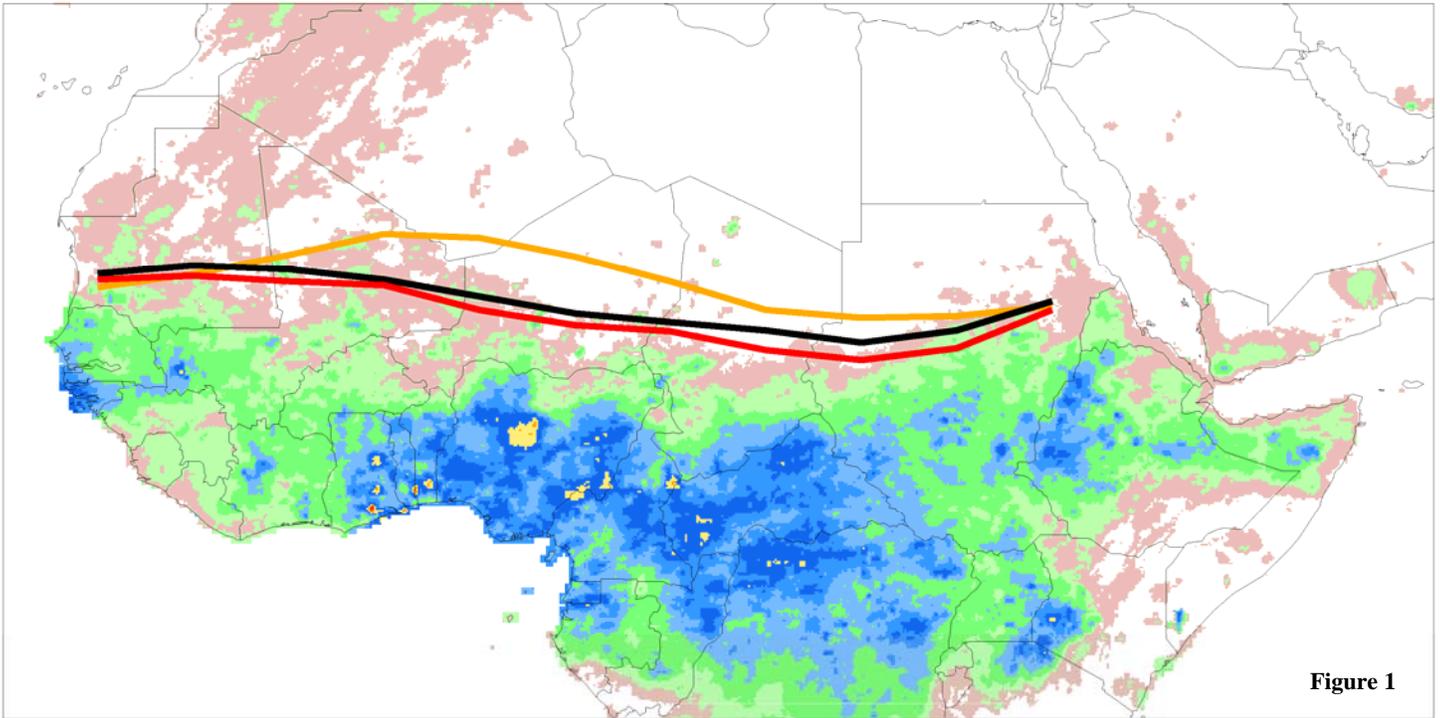


Figure 1

Accumulated Dekadal Precipitation:

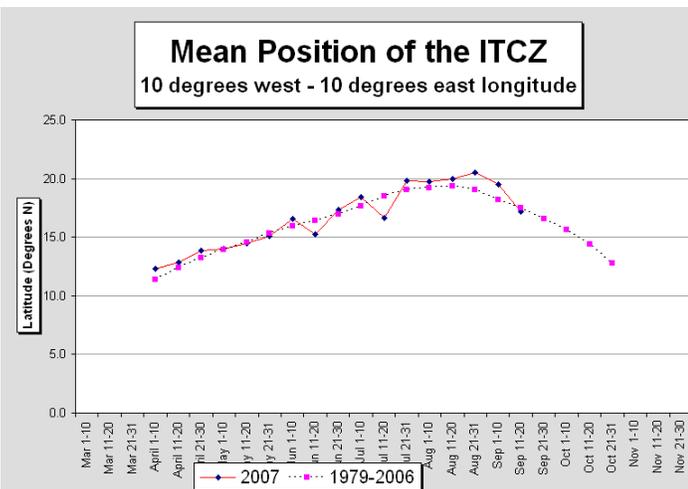
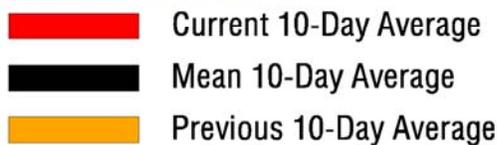


Figure 2

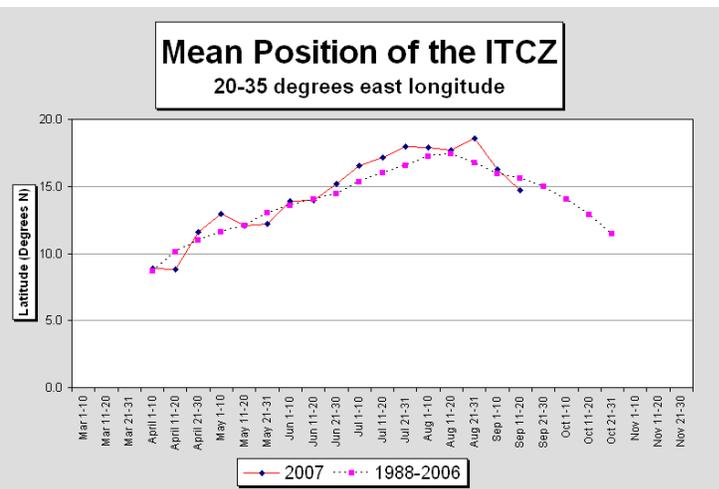


Figure 3

During the period from September 11 - 20, 2007, the African portion of the ITCZ shifted southward having a new mean latitude of approximately 16.2 degrees north when averaged over the ten day period and from 15W-35E. This follows closely with its normal position of 16.8 degrees N which for this dekad. In the west, from 10W-10E, the ITCZ was located near 17.2 degrees north, compared to the long term mean of around 17.7 degrees north, and a position last year of 18.2N. In the east, from 20E-35E, the ITCZ was located near 14.7N, compared with 15.6N for the mean. The ITCZ began moving southward during the first dekad of September. This is after it peaked during the last dekad of August. The southward movement this period was significant; overall, the ITCZ moved approximately 1.0 degree south. Heavy rains had significant localized impacts in northern Ghana this period. Those impacts are expected to lessen as the ITCZ continues south.