

Current vs Mean Position of the Africa ITCZ

As analyzed by the NOAA Climate Prediction Center

September 2006 Dekad 3

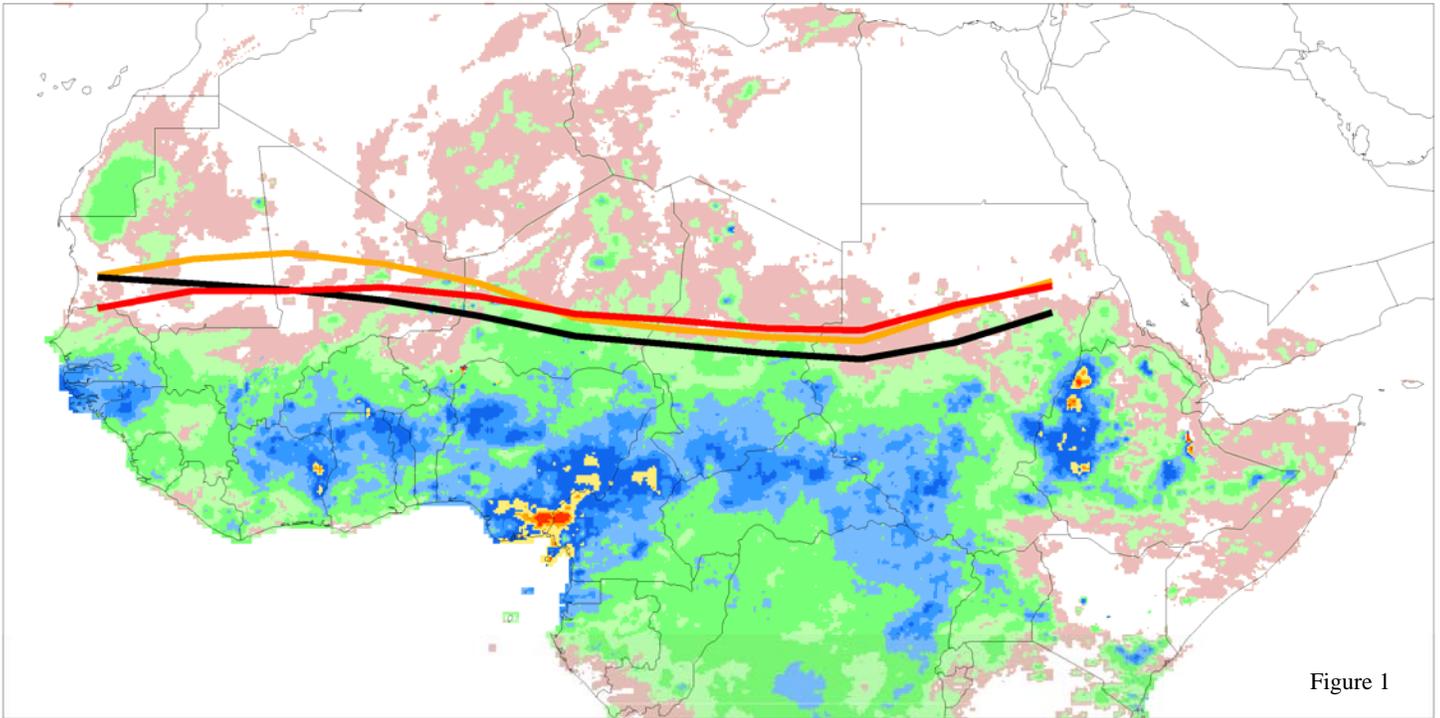


Figure 1

Accumulated Dekadal Precipitation:

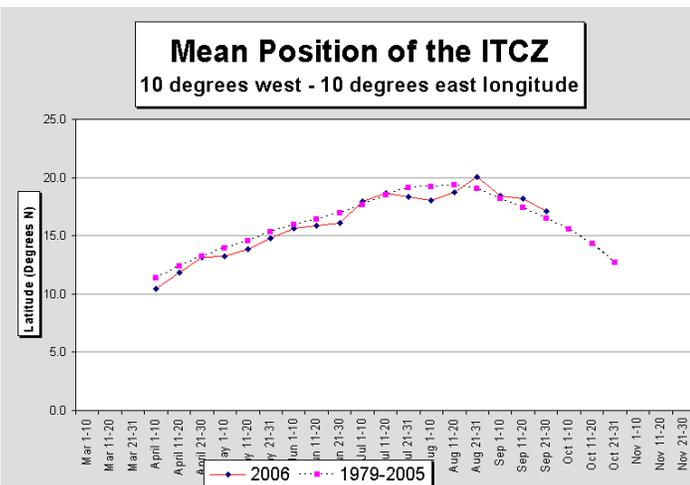
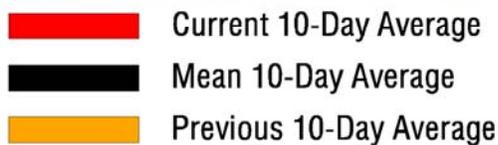


Figure 2

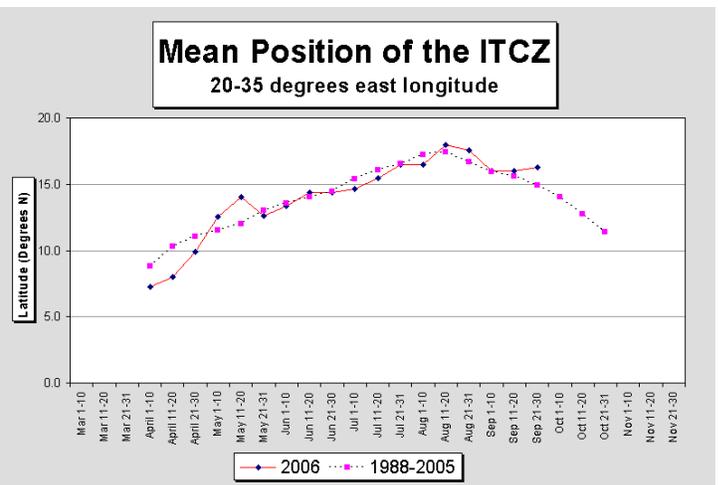


Figure 3

During the period from September 21 – 30, 2006, the African portion of the Intertropical Convergence Zone was located near 16.7 degrees north latitude, compared to the climatological mean of around 15.9N. See Figure 1. It is apparent from the figure that the ITCZ exhibited much of its movement during the past dekad in the western region of the continent, as rainfall trends followed accordingly. In the west, averaged from 10W-10E, the ITCZ was located near 17.1N, compared with a normal position of 16.7N and a position last year of around 17.0N. In the east, averaged from 20E-35E, the ITCZ was near 16.3N, compared with a normal position of 14.7N and a position last year of around 15.1N. During the past dekad, the ITCZ in this region actually moved slightly to the north, to the tune of around half of a degree.