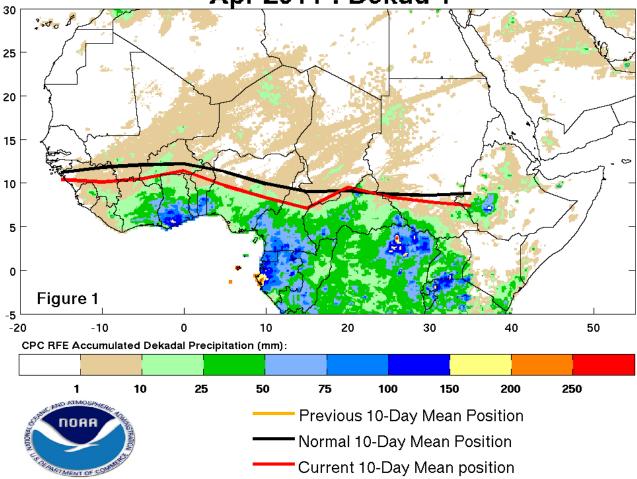
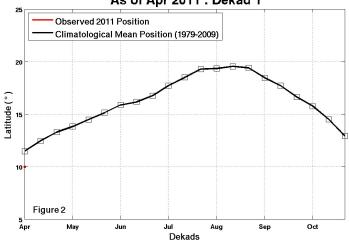
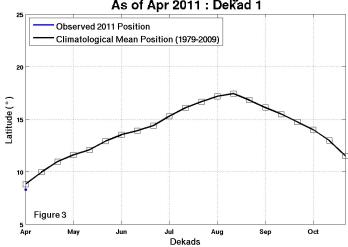
Current vs. Mean Position of the Africa ITF Apr 2011 : Dekad 1







Mean East Portion of ITF: Averaged 20°E to 35°E As of Apr 2011 : Dekad 1



From April 1-10, 2011, the ITF remained fairly below-average in the both in position and intensity across portions of the Gulf of Guinea region, and the semi-arid parts of the lower Sahel. The mean western portion of the ITF was approximated at 10 degrees north, which lagged behind the climatological mean by more than one 1 degree for early April. The below average position was associated with rains and mositure confined along coastal Ghana and the Lake Volta area. The mean eastern portion of the ITF was approximated at 8.3 degrees north, and fell slightly behind the climatological mean for early April. The near-neutral position was associated with marked dryness in southern Sudan, and locally high rainfall in northern parts of the Central African Republic. The above map (Figure 1) shows the current ITF position relative to the positions of climatology for the first dekad of April. Figures 2 and 3 are time series illustrating the latitudinal means of the western and eastern portions of the ITF, respectively, and the start of their progress compared to climatology from the beginning of April, 2011.