

From July 1-10, 2011, the ITF continued its northward progression despite a somewhat sluggish advancement of its western and eastern segments. While an enhanced moisture convergence contributed to the advancement of the ITF ahead of the climatological position across the central portions of West Africa, strong northerly winds helped to block the ITF's movement along its eastern portions during the first dekad of July. The mean western portion of the ITF was located approximately at 16.7 degrees North and trailed the mean climatological position by one degree. The ITF's mean eastern portion approximated 1 4.7 degrees North and was behind of the climatology mean by 0.6 degrees. Figure 1 shows the current ITF position relative to the climatology position for the first dekad of July and its previous position during the third dekad of June. Figures 2 and 3 are time series, showing the latitudinal means of the western and eastern portions of the ITF, respectively, and their evolutions since the start of April.