

Current vs. Mean Position of the Africa ITF Jul 2010 : Dekad 2

From July 11-20, 2010, the ITF experienced a significant northward advancement over many areas in East Africa. The mean eastern portion of the ITF was approximated at 17.6N, which was 1.5 degrees ahead of its climatological average position for mid-July, and 2.1 degrees ahead of its previous dekadal position. The anomalous advancement was associated with a vigorous surge of ample moisture across Sudan, which resulted in heavy rains and some flooding over parts of Sudan and Ethiopia. Towards the west, the mean western portion of the ITF was approximated at 18.1N, and experienced a slight lag across some parts of the Sahel. Relative to climatology, the greatest withdraw of the ITF was observed over parts of Mali and Mauritania. The above map (Figure 1) shows the current ITF position relative to the positions of climatology for the second dekad of July, and its previous placement during the first dekad of July. Figures 2 and 3 are time series illustrating the mean latitudinal values of the western and eastern portions of the ITF, respectively, and their observed advancement since April, 2010.