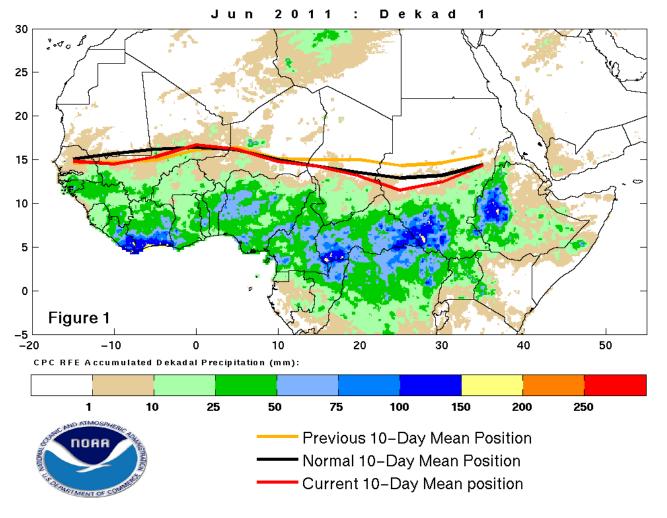
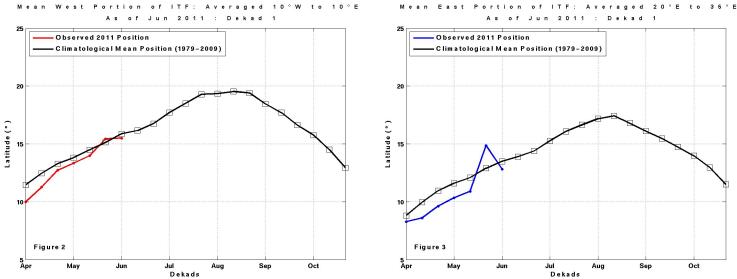
## Current vs. Mean Position of the Africa ITF





From June 1-10, 2011, the ITF experienced a significant southward shift over its eastern segment. The mean western portion of the ITF was located approximately at 15.5 degrees North and was behind the climatology mean by 0.4 degrees. Unlike the previous dekad, the ITF was behind the climatology mean over far western portions of the Sahel due to an increase in northerly winds. The eastern portion of the ITF was approximated at 12.8 degrees North, which was two degrees south of the previous dekadal position and behind the climatology mean position by 0.7 degrees. The large, southerly retreat of the ITF was associated with a change from strong, moist southerly winds during the end of May to strong, dry northerlies during the first dekad of June. Figure 1 shows the current ITF position relative to the climatology position for the first dekad of June and its previous position during the third dekad of May. Figures 2 and 3 are time series, llustrating the latitudinal means of the western and eastern portions of the ITF, respectively, and their evolutions since the start of April.