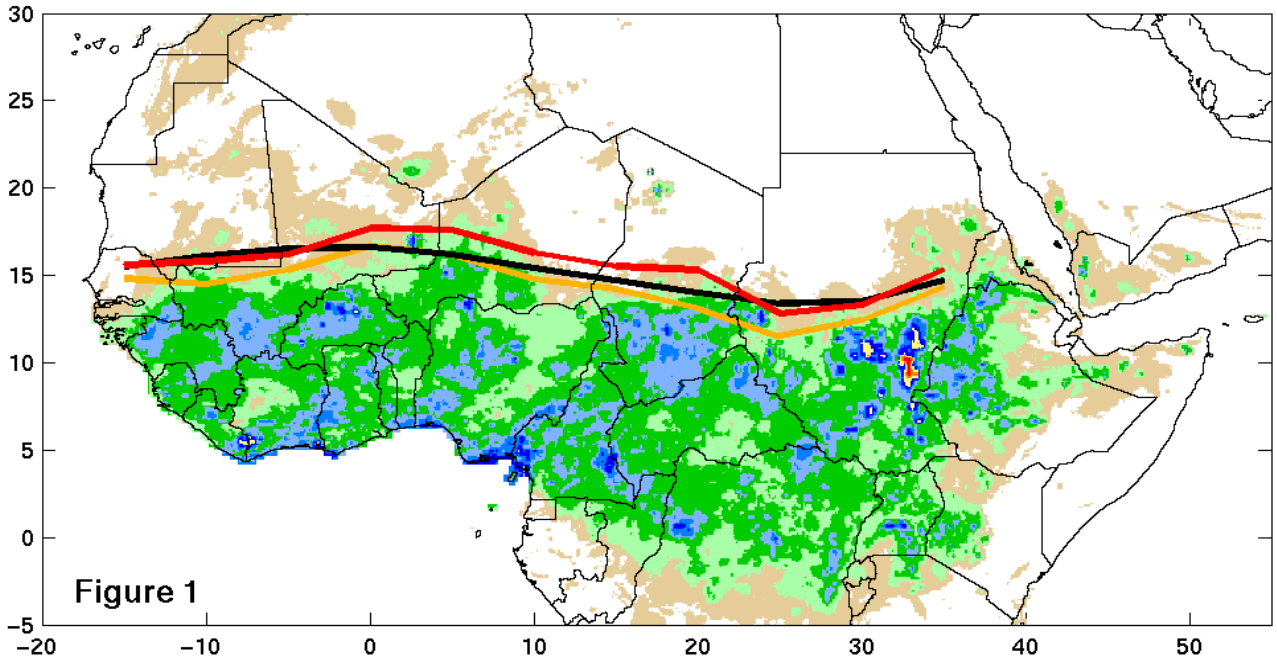
Current vs. Mean Position of the Africa ITF

Jun 2011 : Dekad 2



CPC RFE Accumulated Dekadal Precipitation (mm):

1 10 25 50 75 100 150 200 250

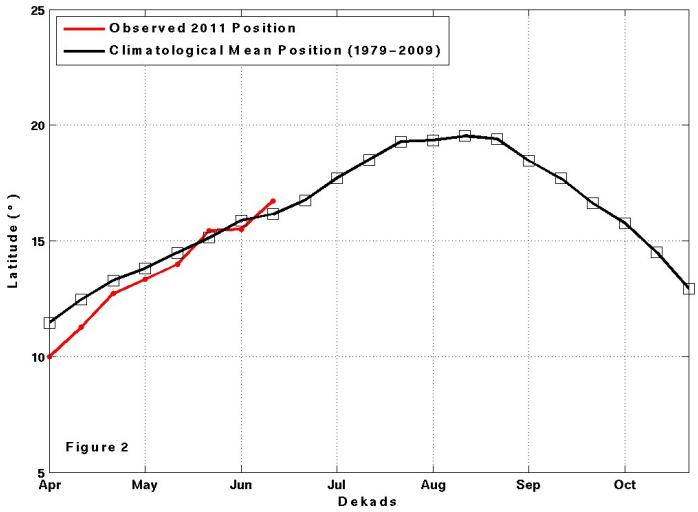
Previous 10-Day Mean Position

Normal 10-Day Mean Position

Current 10-Day Mean position

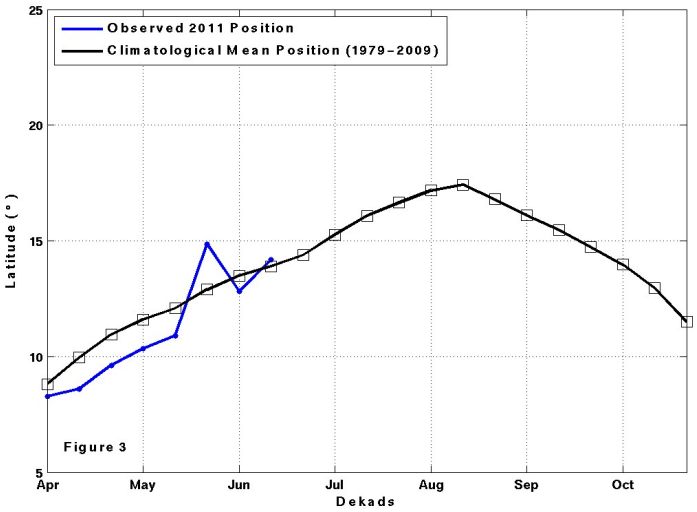
Mean West Portion of ITF: Averaged 10°W to 10°E

As of Jun 2011 : Dekad 2



Mean East Portion of ITF: Averaged 20°E to 35°E

As of Jun 2011 : Dekad 2



From June 11-20, 2011, the ITF shifted north of the climatology mean over its western and eastern segment, in contrast to its position relative to the climatology mean during the previous dekad. The mean western portion of the ITF was located approximately at 16.7 degrees North and was ahead of the climatology mean by 0.5 degrees. The northward movement of the ITF was associated with an increase in moist, southerly winds over central parts of West Africa. The eastern portion of the ITF was approximated at 14.2 degrees North, which was 0.3 degrees north of the climatology mean. While the mean eastern position of the ITF was slightly north of the climatology mean, drier air over the Darfur region of Sudan suppressed the ITF slightly south of the climatology mean over western Sudan. Figure 1 shows the current ITF position relative to the climatology position for the second dekad of June and its previous position during the first dekad of June. Figures 2 and 3 are time series, illustrating the latitudinal means of the western and eastern portions of the ITF, respectively, and their evolutions since the start of April.