

Current vs Mean Position of the Africa ITF

As analyzed by the NOAA Climate Prediction Center

April 2009 Dekad 3

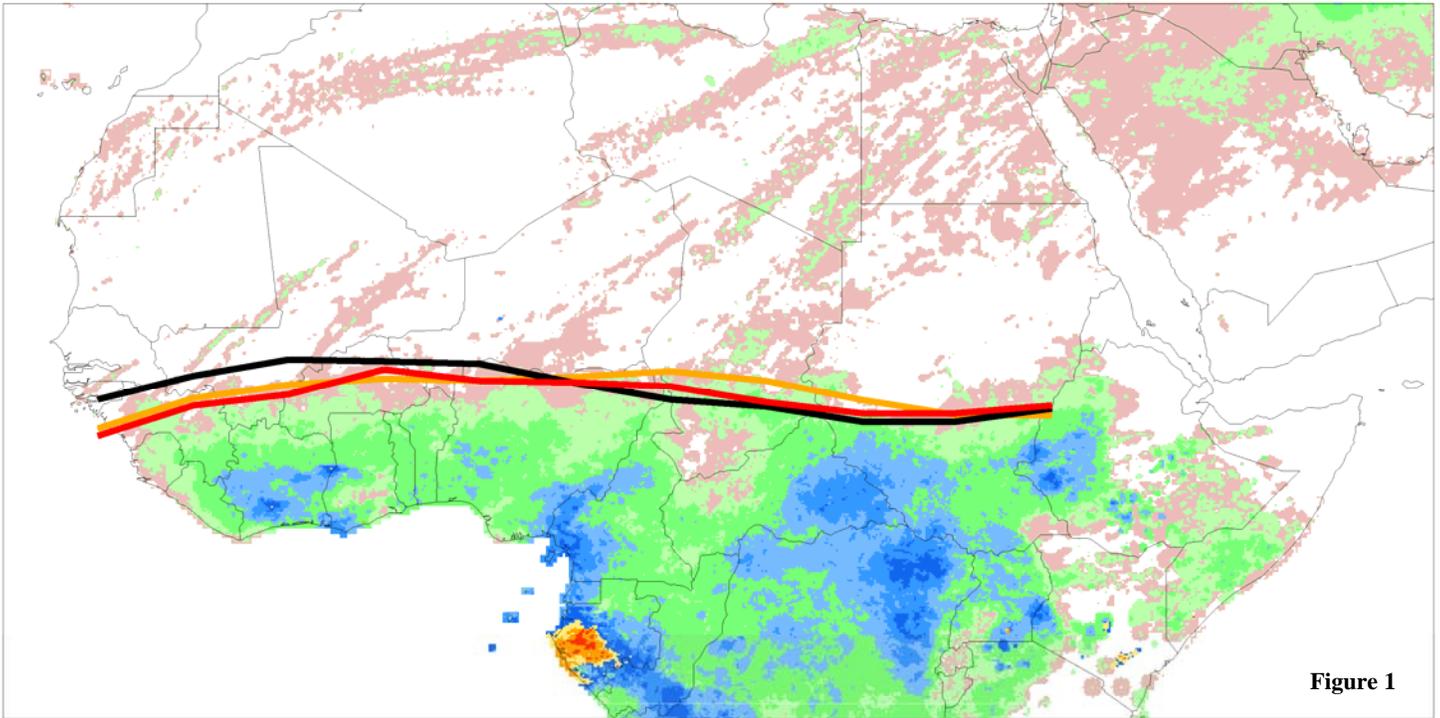


Figure 1

Accumulated Dekadal Precipitation:

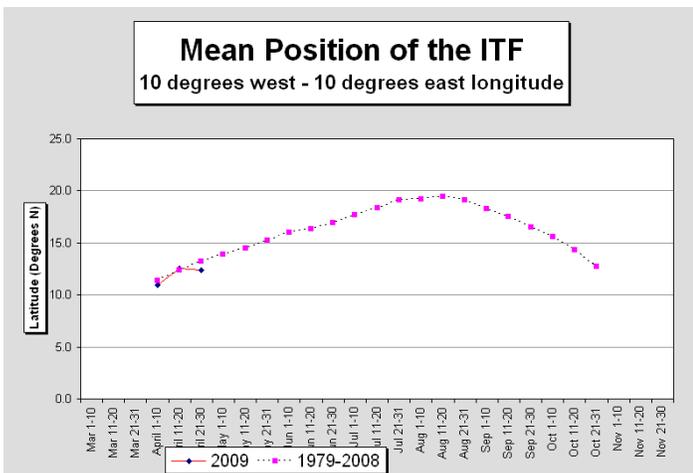
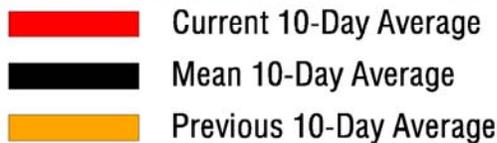


Figure 2

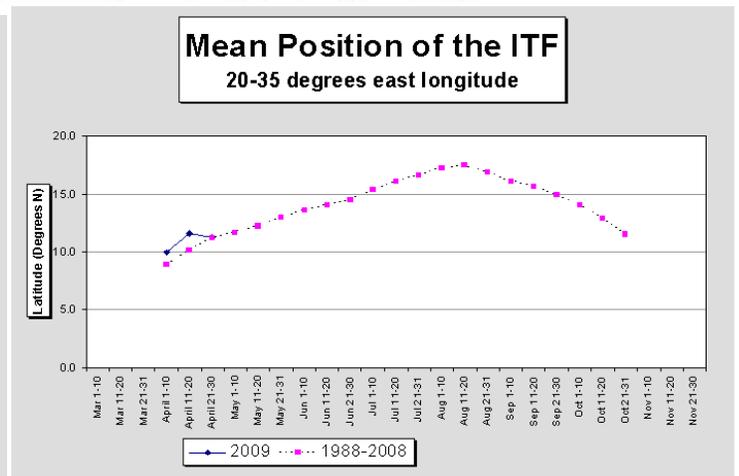


Figure 3

During the period from April 21-30, 2009, the African portion of the Intertropical Front (ITF) was located at around 11.7 degrees north latitude, compared with the normal position of 12.2 degrees north. The position is significantly south of the same dekad of 2008 when the ITF was around 13.4N. Figure 1 shows the current position compared to normal, and it is apparent from this diagram that the ITF remains south of the normal position across much of West Africa, and near normal across Nigeria, Chad and Sudan. Using latitude to compare the current position with the 1979-2007 average, the historical average is around 13.3N in the east, and the current position is around 12.4N the ITF. Figures 2 and 3 also show the southward bias of the ITF, which has moved south from its position last week.