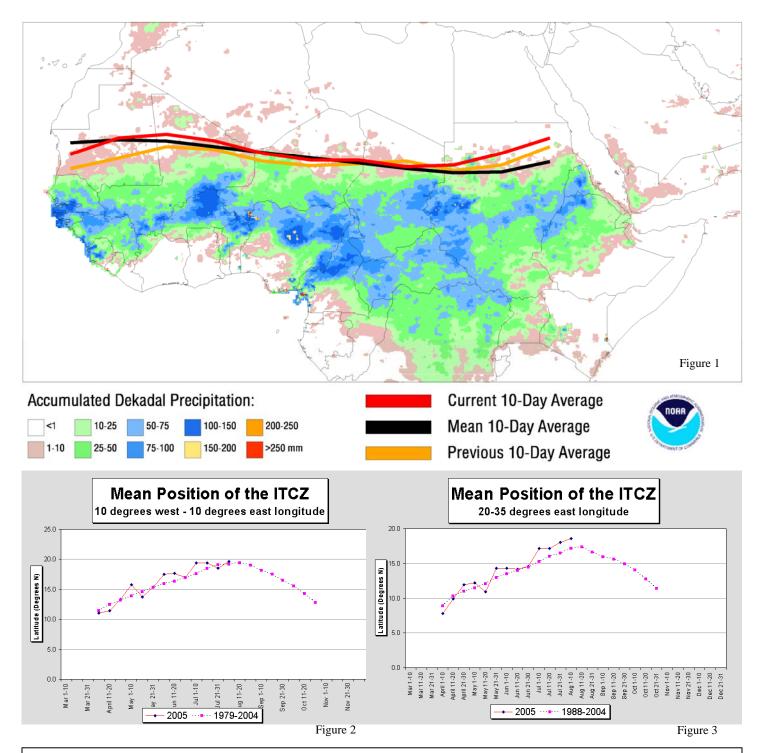
Current vs Mean Position of the Africa ITCZ As analyzed by the NOAA Climate Prediction Center

August 2005 Dekad 1



During the period from August 1-10, 2005, the African portion of the Intertropical Convergence Zone was located near 19.0 degrees north latitude, compared to the long term mean position of 18.5N, and the previous dekad's location of 18.1N. Though the next dekad normally signifies the peak northward position of the ITCZ, that corresponding latitude was reached roughly four dekads ago. This is not to say that the 2005 seasonal ITCZ reached its northward peak four dekads ago, since the current dekadal location is the furthest north of the season to date. In the west (from 10W-10E), the ITCZ was located near 19.6N during the current period, compared to a long term mean of 19.4N and a position last dekad of 18.5N. In the east (from 20-35E), the ITCZ was located near 18.6N, compared to a long term mean of 17.2N and a position last dekad of 18.0N. All in all, it is yet undetermined if the ITCZ has reached its northward peak for the 2005 season.