

Current vs Mean Position of the Africa ITF

As analyzed by the NOAA Climate Prediction Center

August 2009 Dekad 1

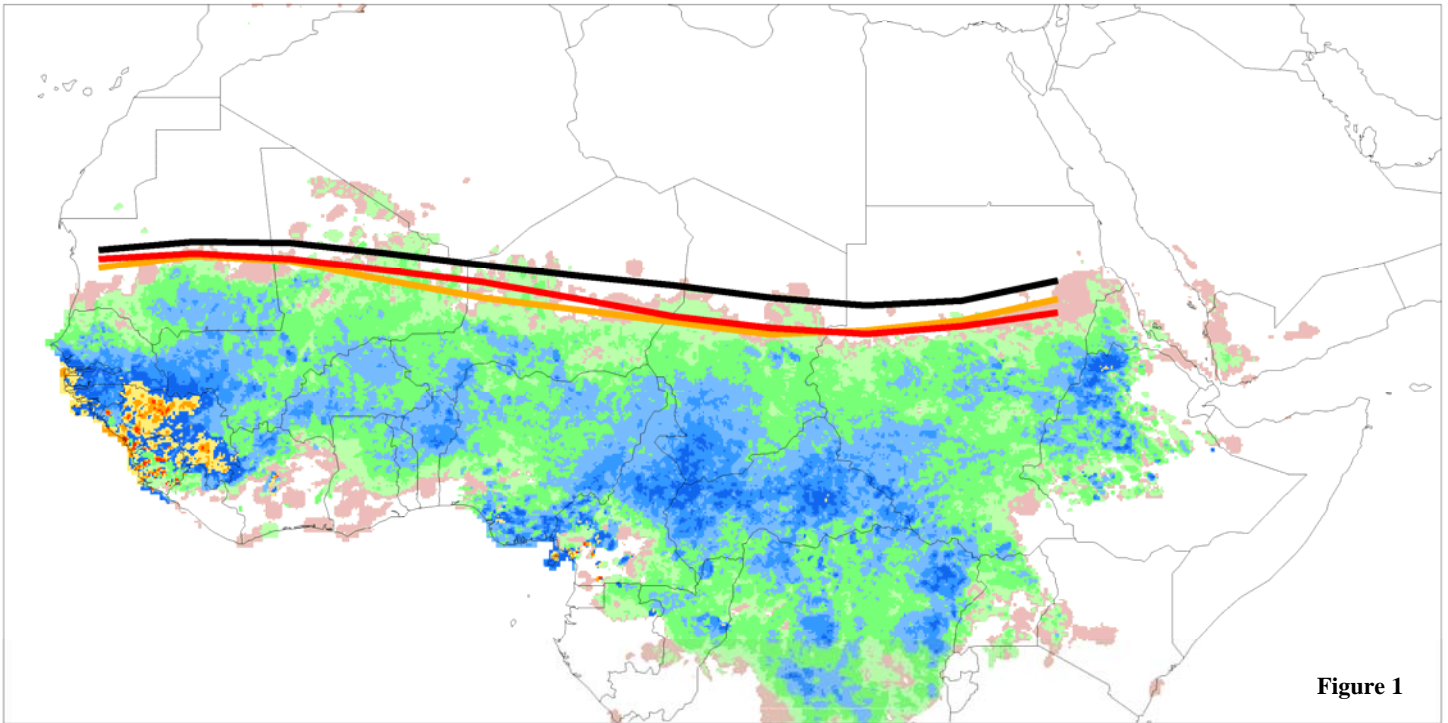


Figure 1

Accumulated Dekadal Precipitation:

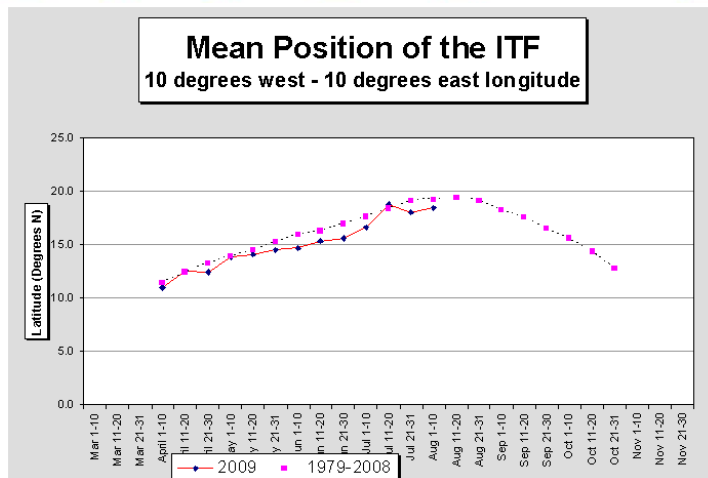
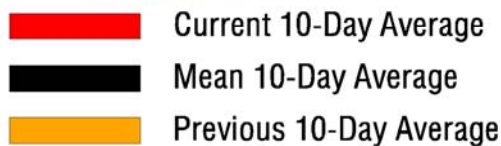


Figure 2

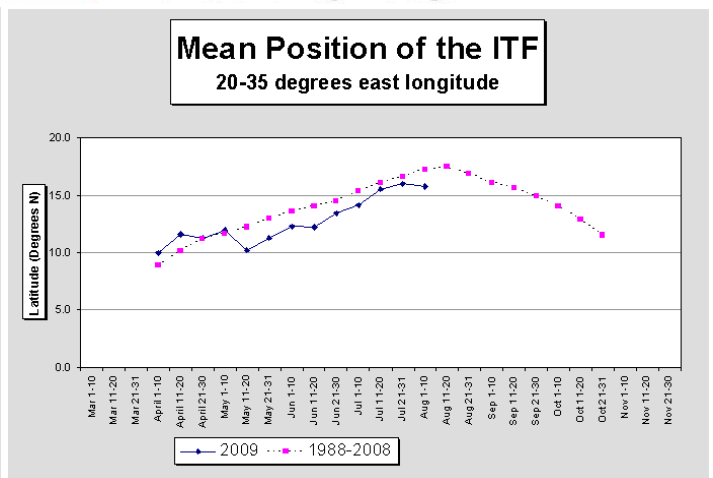


Figure 3

During the period from August 1-10, 2009, the African portion of the Intertropical Front (ITF) was located near 17.3N degrees, while the normal for this time of year is 18.5N degrees. This is a very similar position to last two weeks, and as such the southward anomalous position has grown. Figure 1 shows the current position compared to normal, and it is apparent from this diagram that the ITF continues to be suppressed across all of Africa. Comparing the current position with the 1979-2008 average, the historical average is around 17.3N in the east, and the current position is around 15.8N. In the west the ITF is more suppressed with a historical average position of 19.4N, compared to the current of 18.5N. Figures 2 and 3 show the somewhat erratic movements of the ITF so far this year.