

# Current vs Mean Position of the Africa ITCZ

As analyzed by the NOAA Climate Prediction Center

## May 2005 Dekad 1

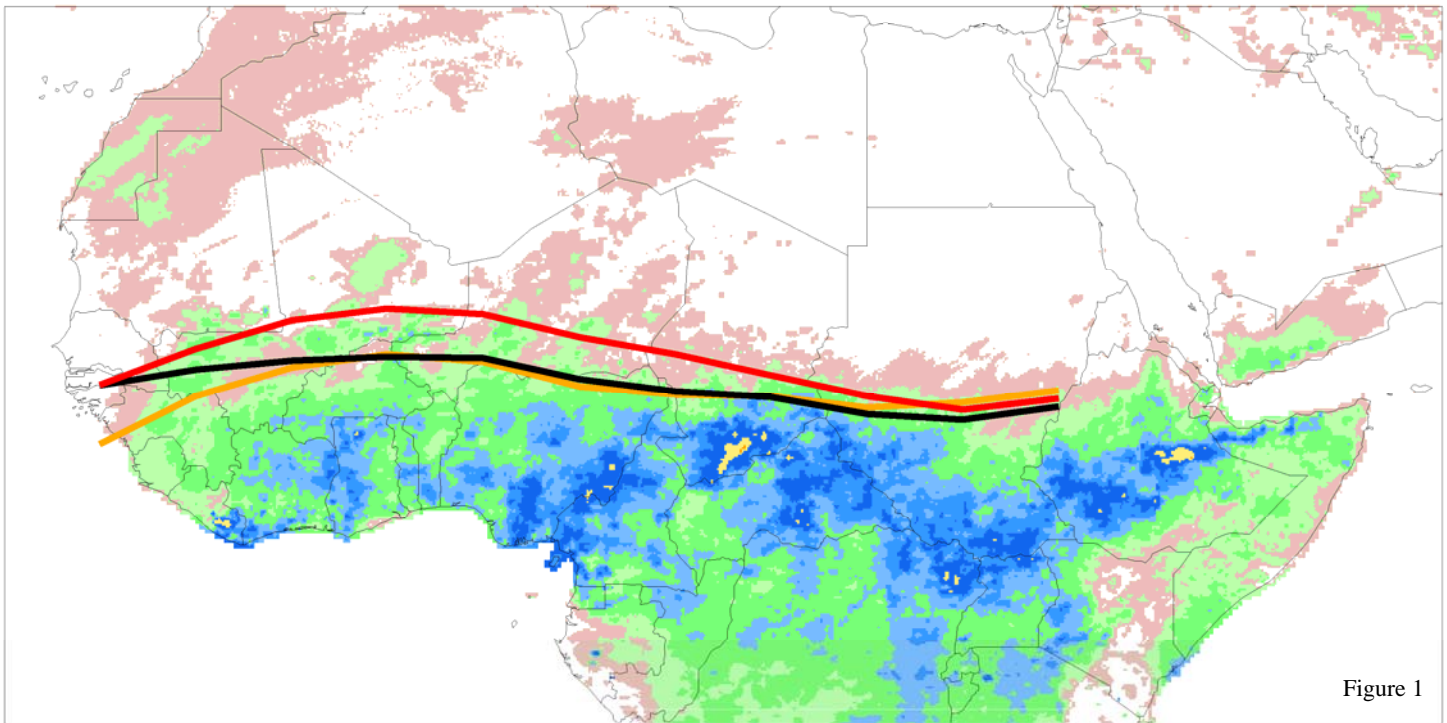


Figure 1

Accumulated Dekadal Precipitation:

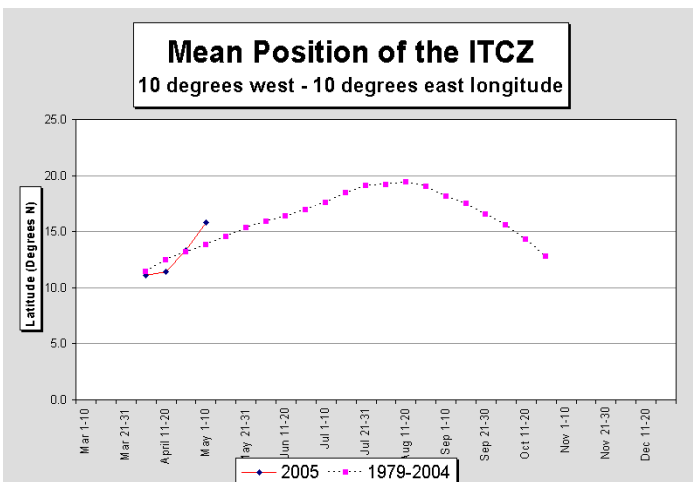
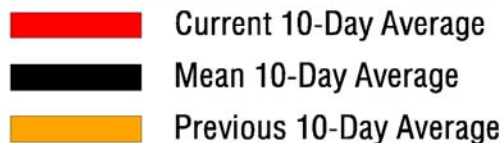


Figure 2

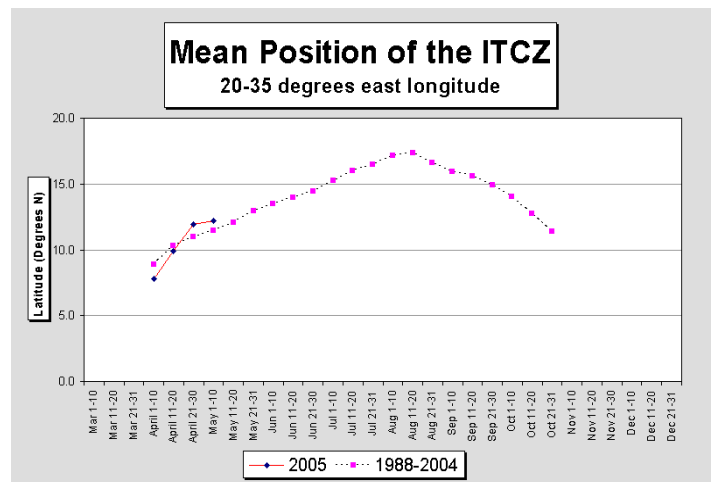


Figure 3

From May 1-10 2005, the African portion of the Intertropical Convergence Zone was located near 14.1 degrees north latitude when averaged over the entire period and from 15W-35E longitude. This is nearly 1.7 degrees northward from its position during the final dekad of April, and around 1.4 degrees north from its long term mean location during 1988-2004. From Figure 1, it can be seen that while the ITCZ over Sudan remained nearly stationary from last period, areas to the west saw the convergence zone move rapidly northward. In fact, rains were seen during the past dekad in many locations further north from last period, especially near central Mali and southern Niger. In the east, rainfall remained very active in areas of southern Darfur in Chad and in much of the Ethiopian Highlands. For the record, the western area of the ITCZ (10W-10E) was located near 15.8N, compared to a long term mean of 13.7N and a value last dekad of 13.3N. From 20N-35N, the latest position of the ITCZ was near 12.2N, compared to a normal location of 11.4N and 12.0N during the final dekad of April.