

Current vs Mean Position of the Africa ITCZ

As analyzed by the NOAA Climate Prediction Center

September 2007 Dekad 1

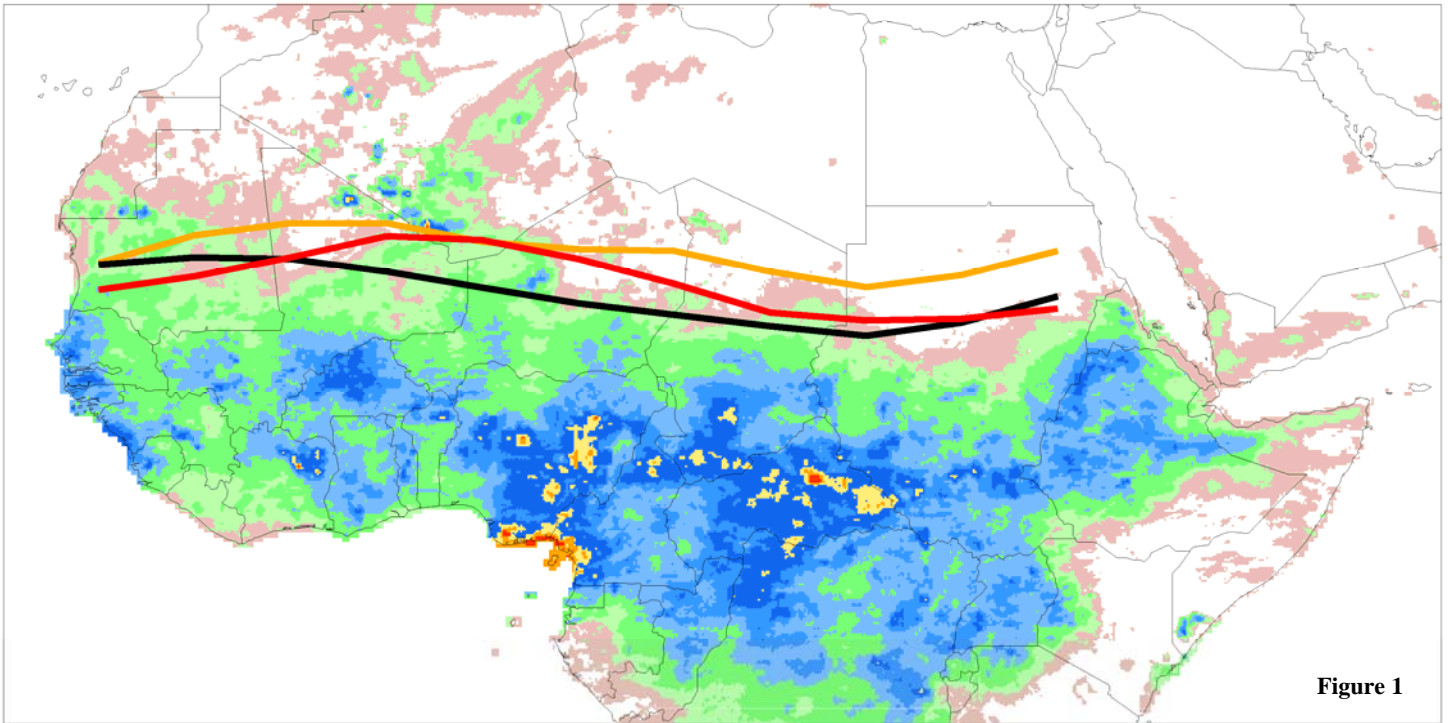


Figure 1

Accumulated Dekadal Precipitation:

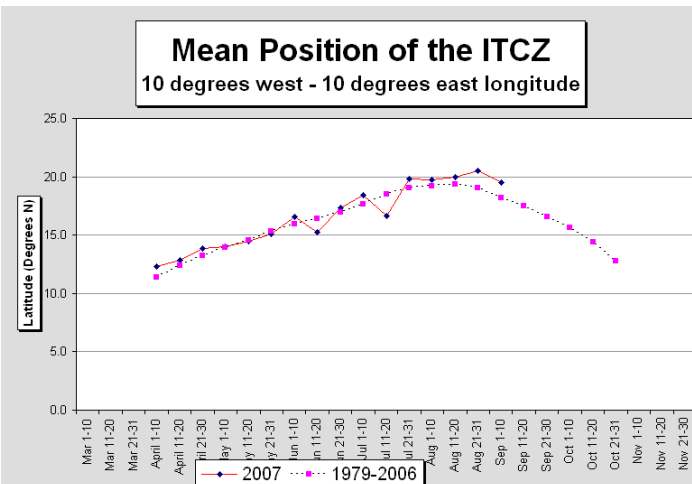
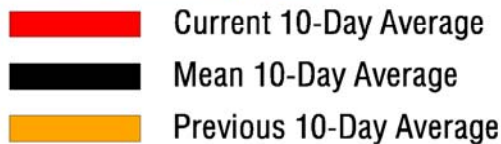


Figure 2

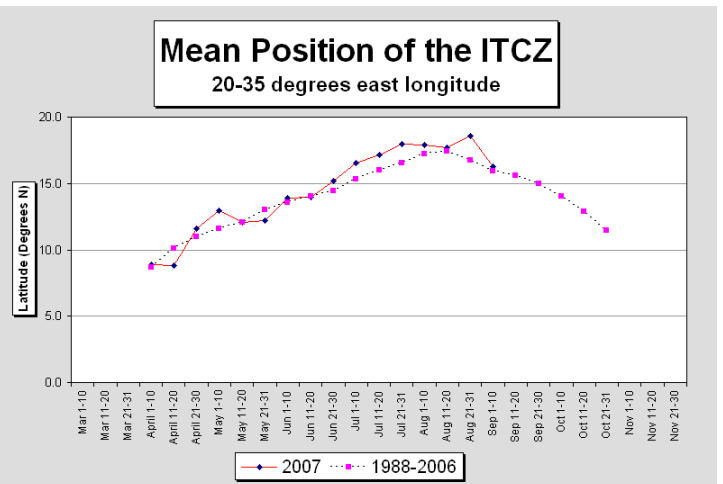


Figure 3

During the period from September 1 - 10, 2007, the African portion of the ITCZ was located near 18.0 degrees north latitude when averaged over the ten day period and from 15W-35E. This compares with a normal position of 17.3N which is also the normal position for this dekad. In the west, from 10W-10E, the ITCZ was located near 19.5 degrees north, compared to the long term mean of around 18.3 degrees north, and a position last year's of 18.4N. In the east, from 20E-35E, the ITCZ was located near 16.3N, compared with 16.0N for the mean, and which was also last year's position. The ITCZ began moving southward this dekad. This is after a later than normal peak. The southward movement was very pronounced this week, especially in the east. Heavy rains remained in Niger and Mali as the ITCZ remained further north than normal. Overall the ITCZ moved about 1.6 degrees south from last dekad.