

Current vs Mean Position of the Africa ITF

As analyzed by the NOAA Climate Prediction Center

September 2009 Dekad 2

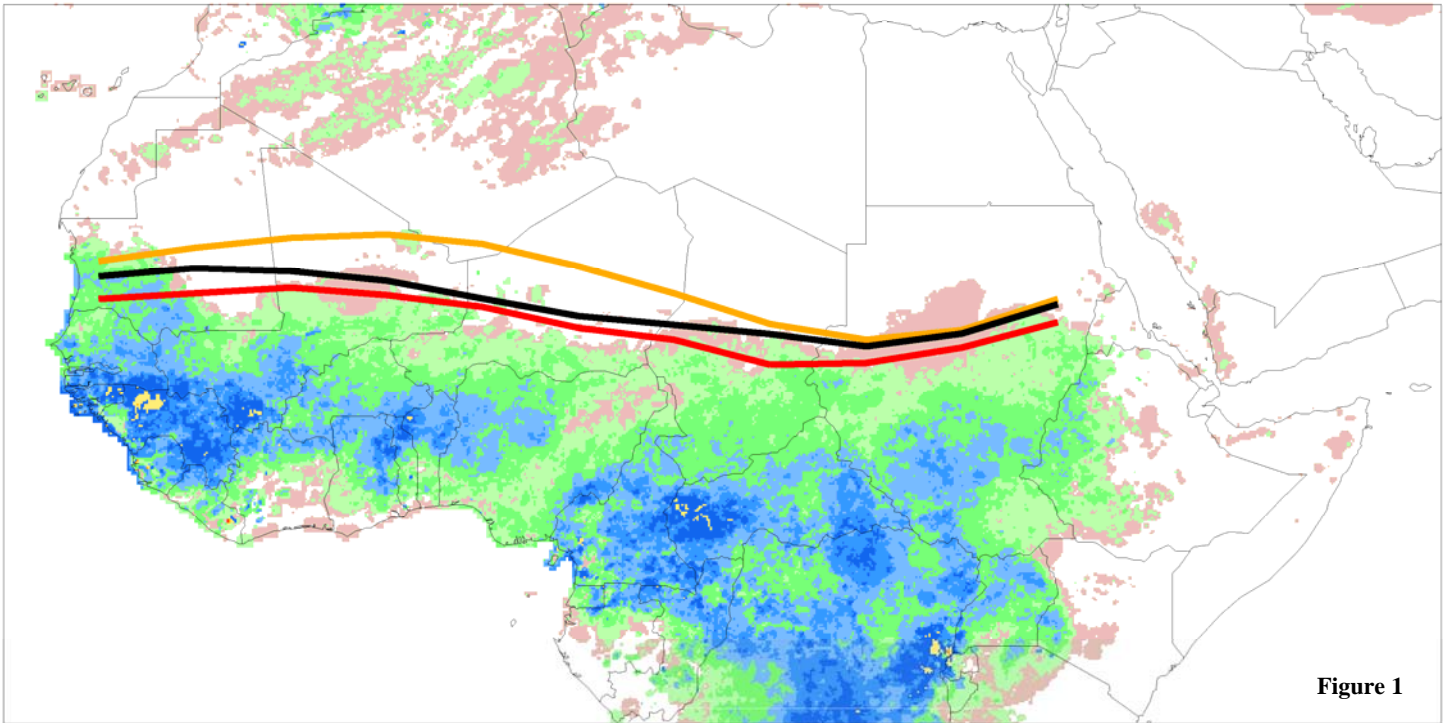


Figure 1

Accumulated Dekadal Precipitation:

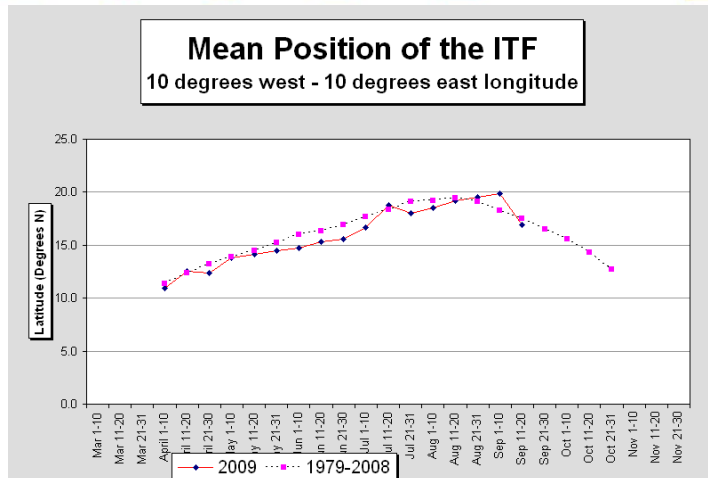
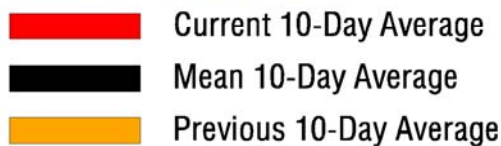


Figure 2

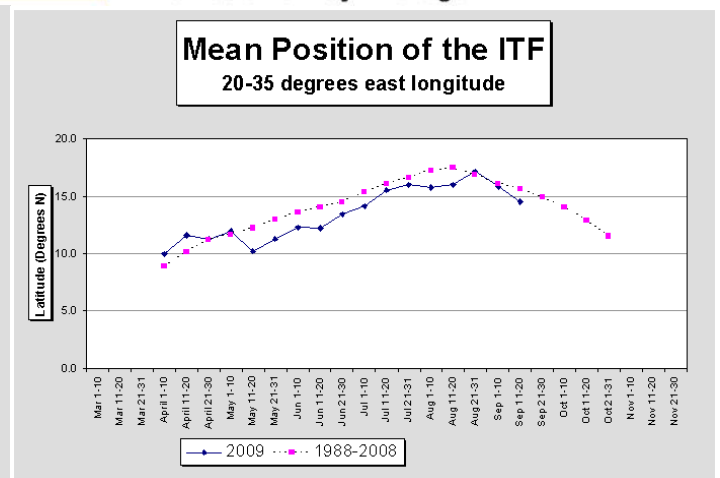


Figure 3

During the period from September 11-21, 2009, the African portion of the Intertropical Front (ITF) was located near 15.9N degrees, while the normal for this time of year is 16.8N degrees. The ITF has now returned to its south-of-normal position, which it has held for much of the season. Figure 1 shows the current position compared to normal, and it is apparent from this diagram that the ITF is near its normal position across the continent and very close to normal across Mali and Niger. Comparing the current position with the 1979-2008 average, the historical average is around 14.5N in the east, and the current position is around 15.5N. In the west the ITF is well north of its historical average position of 16.9N, compared to the current position, 17.7N. Figures 2 and 3 show the delayed peak of the ITF this year, and the return to the south of normal position this year.