

Current vs Mean Position of the Africa ITCZ

As analyzed by the NOAA Climate Prediction Center

September 2007 Dekad 3

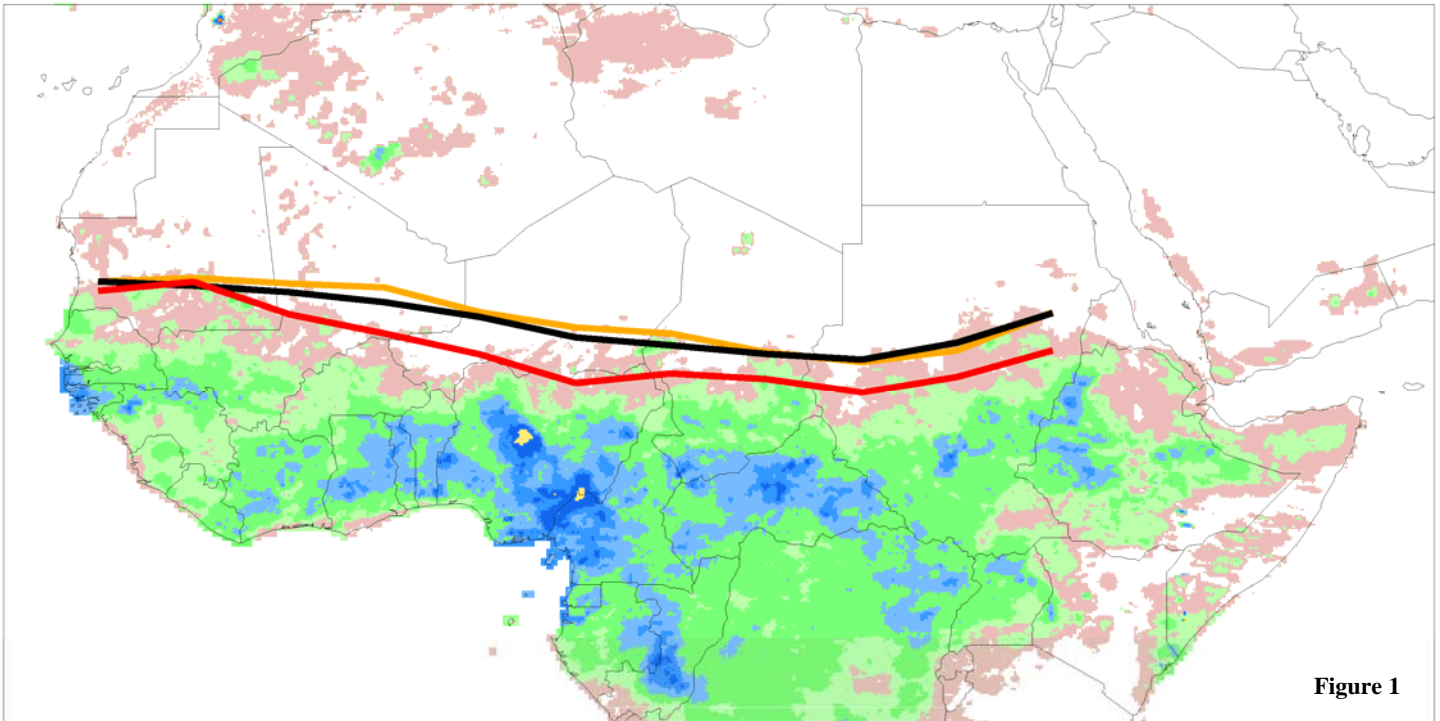


Figure 1

Accumulated Dekadal Precipitation:

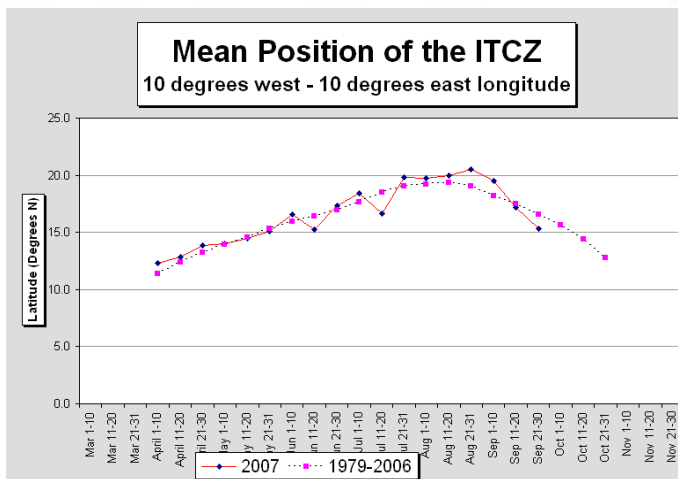
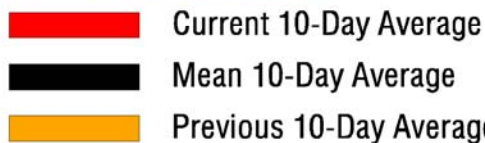


Figure 2

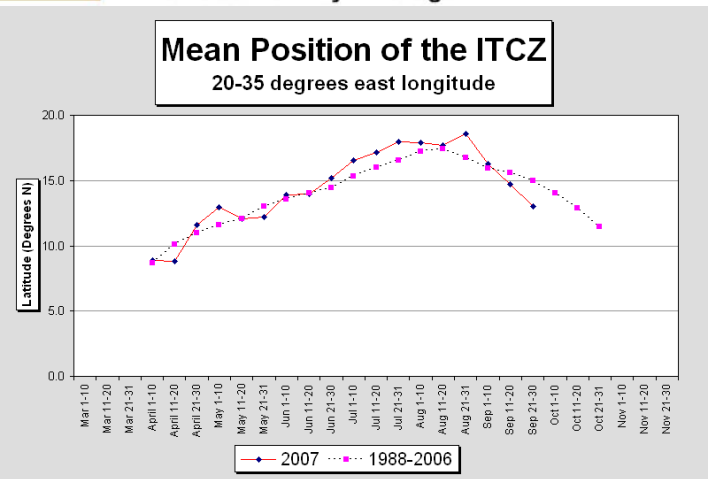


Figure 3

During the period from September 21 - 30, 2007, the African portion of the ITCZ shifted southward having a new mean latitude of approximately 14.5 degrees north when averaged over the ten day period and from 15W-35E. This is lower than its normal position of 15.9 degrees N which for this dekad. In the west, from 10W-10E, the ITCZ was located near 15.3 degrees north, compared to the long term mean of around 16.7 degrees north, and a position last year of 17.1N. In the east, from 20E-35E, the ITCZ was located near 13.0N, compared with 14.8 N for the mean. The ITCZ began moving southward during the first dekad of September. This is after it peaked during the last dekad of August. The southward movement this period was significant; overall, the ITCZ moved almost 2.0 degrees south. Heavy rains have begun to lessen in the north providing relief to heavily inundated regions. Rain impacts are expected to lessen as the ITCZ continues its southward trek.