

Current vs Mean Position of the Africa ITF

As analyzed by the NOAA Climate Prediction Center

September 2009 Dekad 3

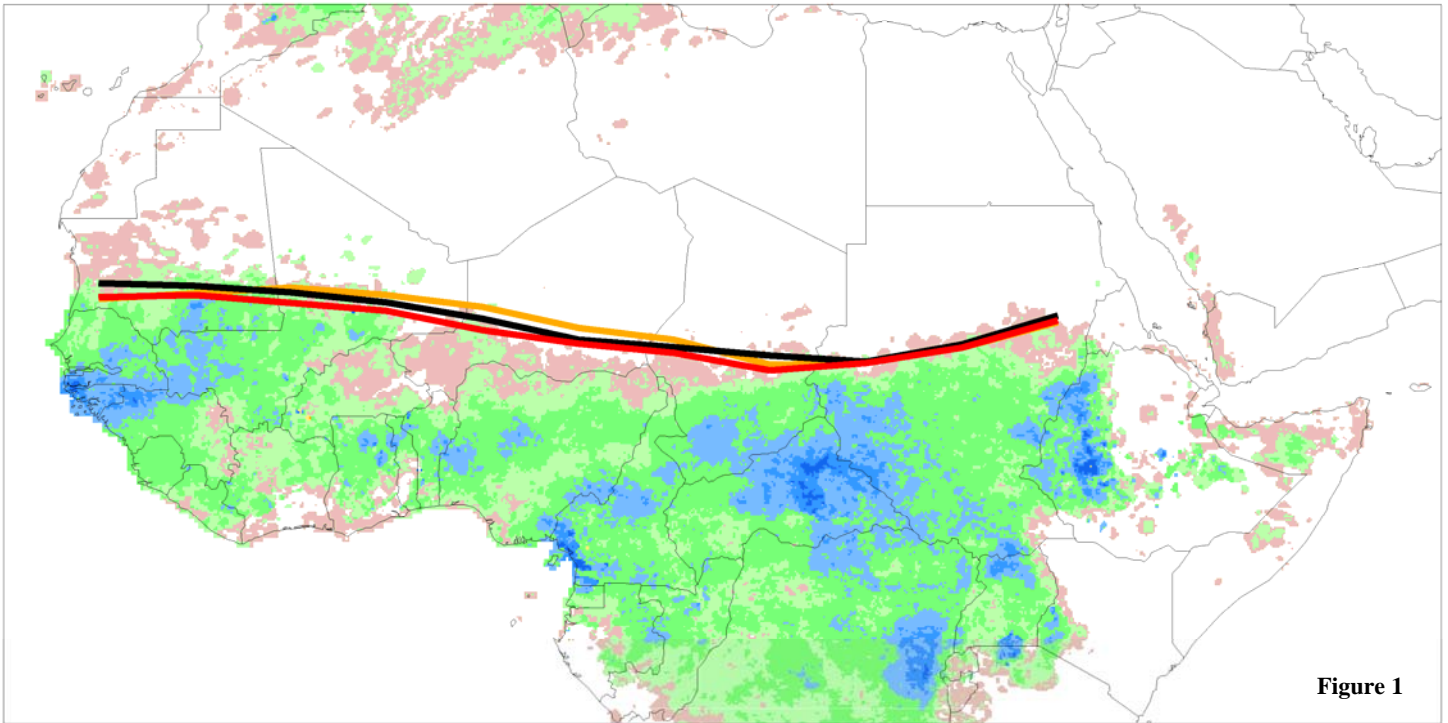


Figure 1

Accumulated Dekadal Precipitation:

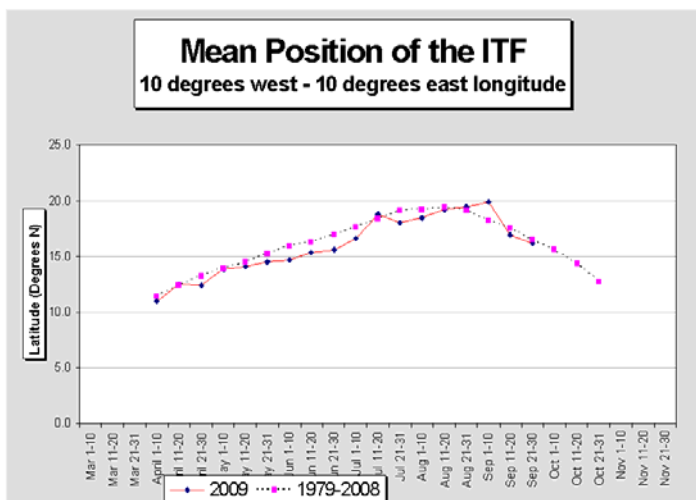
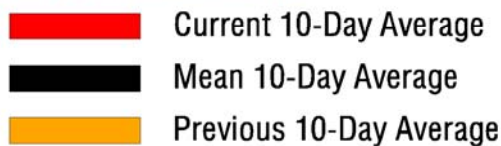


Figure 2

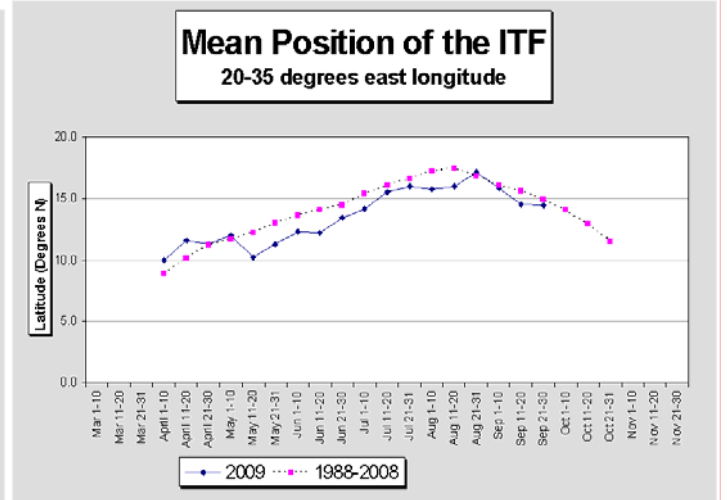


Figure 3

During the period from September 21-30, 2009, the African portion of the Intertropical Front (ITF) was located near 15.5N degrees, while the normal for this time of year is 15.9N degrees. The ITF is now very close to its normal position for this time of year. 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 all of the continent. Comparing the current position with the 1979-2008 average, the historical average is around 14.8N in the east, and the current position is around 14.5N. In the west the ITF is at 16.2N, slightly south of its historical average position of 16.6N. Figures 2 and 3 show the delayed peak of the ITF this year, and the return to a more normal position.