

Current vs Mean Position of the Africa ITF

As analyzed by the NOAA Climate Prediction Center

September 2008 Dekad 2

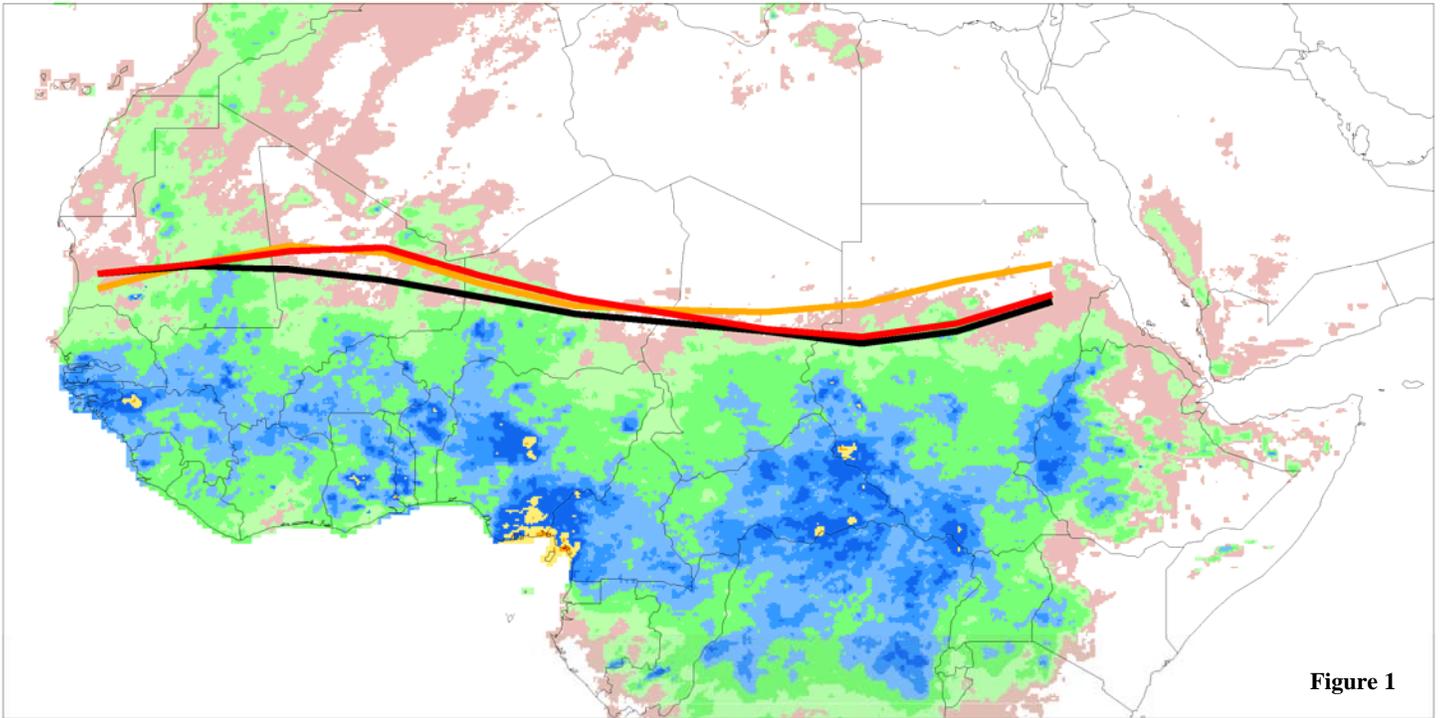


Figure 1

Accumulated Dekadal Precipitation:

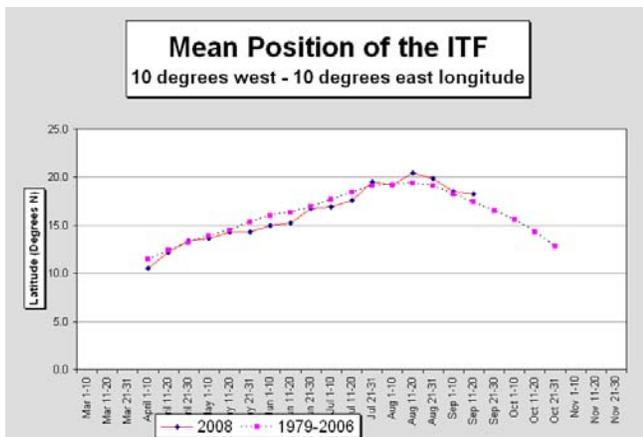
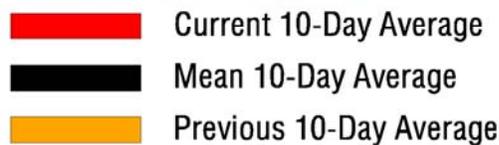


Figure 2

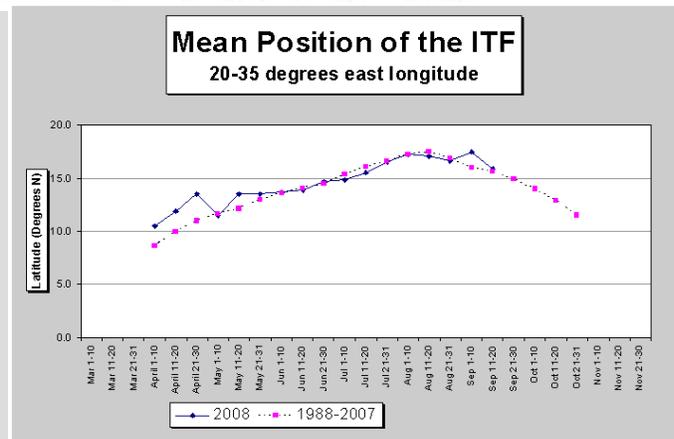


Figure 3

During the period from September 11-20, 2008, the African portion of the Intertropical Front (ITF) was located at around 17.4 degrees north latitude, compared to the mean of 16.8. Figure 1 displays the current position compared to normal, with the ITF moving southward across the east, but remaining close to the same position as last dekad. The ITF remains close to normal, except near Mali, where it remains slightly north of normal. There were a couple of days during the dekad when the ITF surged northward into the Sahara desert across Mali and Mauritania resulting in light precipitation in some of those areas. The ITF is positioned at 18.3 degrees north in the west and 15.8 degrees north in the east. Compared with the 1979-2007 mean of around 17.7 degrees north in the west, and a normal position of around 15.5 degrees north in the east.