

Current vs Mean Position of the Africa ITF

As analyzed by the NOAA Climate Prediction Center

September 2008 Dekad 3

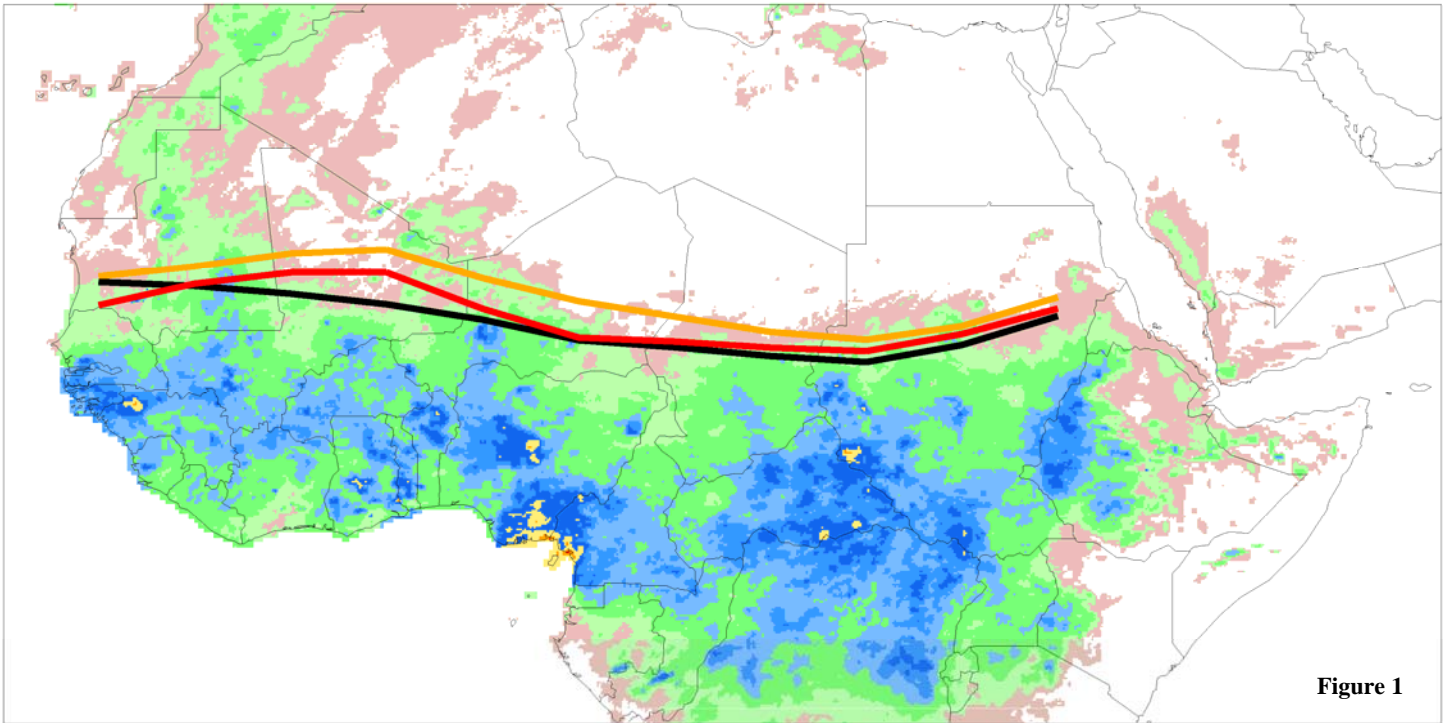


Figure 1

Accumulated Dekadal Precipitation:

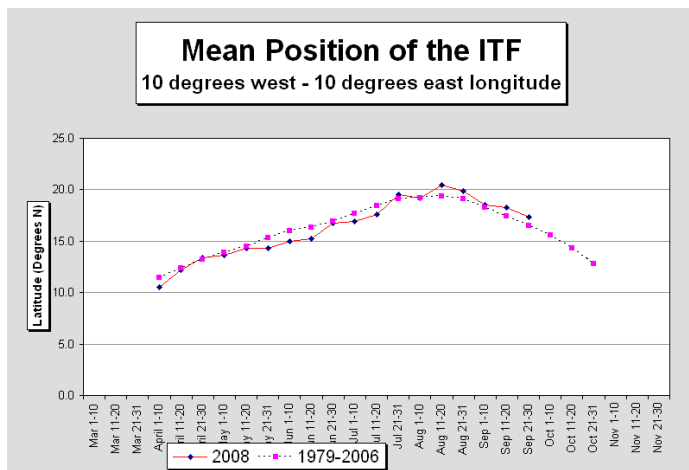
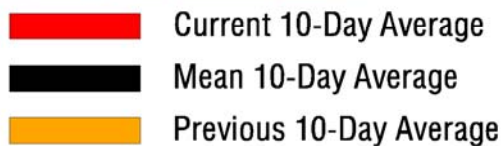


Figure 2

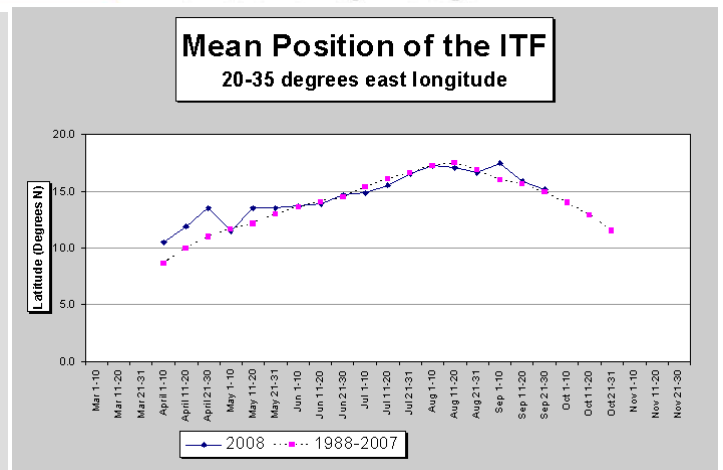


Figure 3

During the period from September 21-30, 2008, the African portion of the Intertropical Front (ITF) was located at around 16.3 degrees north latitude, compared to the mean of 15.9. Figure 1 displays the current position compared to normal, with the ITF moving southward from its position last dekad in a uniform manner. 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 17.3 degrees north in the west and 15.1 degrees north in the east. Compared with the 1979-2007 mean of around 16.6 degrees north in the west, and a normal position of around 14.7 degrees north in the east.