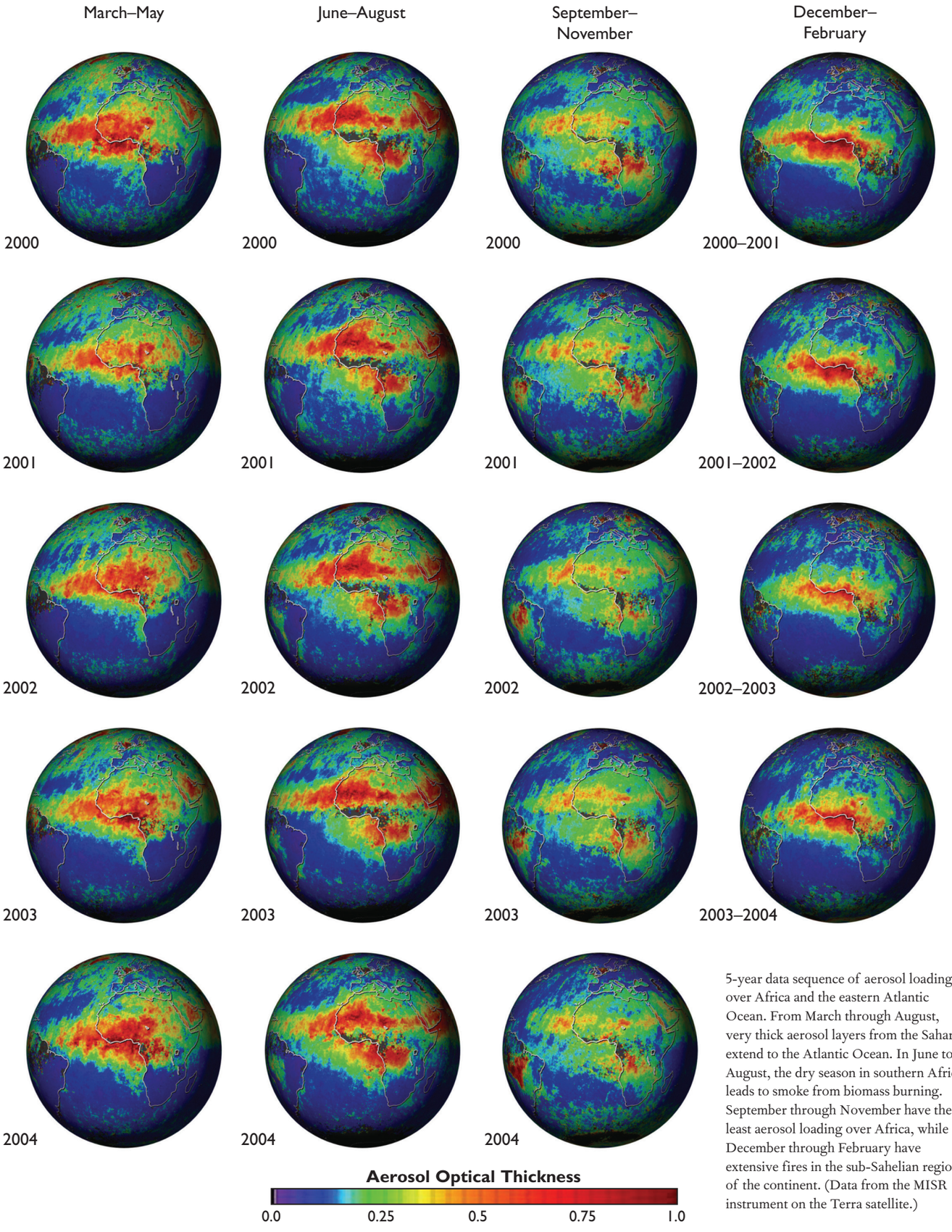

5-year data sequence of aerosol loading over Africa and the eastern Atlantic Ocean. From March through August, very thick aerosol layers from the Sahara extend to the Atlantic Ocean. In June to August, the dry season in southern Africa leads to smoke from biomass burning. September through November have the least aerosol loading over Africa, while December through February have extensive fires in the sub-Sahelian region of the continent. (Data from the MISR instrument on the Terra satellite.)