Max Hartmann (1876–1962) trained under German zoologist Richard Hertwig (1850–1937), and from 1914 worked at the Kaiser-Wilehlm Institute for Biology in Berlin-Dahlem. His protozoology division was particularly productive during 1920s and 1930s. Many protozoologists in his laboratory worked out the taxonomy and life cycles of various forms of microorganisms, investigated cell structure, and worked on various novel hereditary phenomena and the difficult problem of sex determination. Two of the most important Hartmann's publications were: his in 1925 published textbook "Allgemeine Biologie: Eine Einfühung in die Lehre von Leben" (General Biology: an Introduction to the Study of Life) and the in 1943 published book "Die Sexualität. Das Wesen und die Grundgesetzlichkeiten des Geschlechts und der Geschlechtsbestimmung im Tier- und Pflanzenreich" (Sexuality. The Nature and the basic lawfulness of sex and sex determination in animals and plants).

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