

Christian Hertweck

Date of birth:	October 1, 1969
Nationality:	German
Position:	2006–Present Head of Department of Biomolecular Chemistry, Leibniz Institute for Natural Product Research and Infection Biology Full Professor at the Friedrich-Schiller-University (Germany) 2008–Present Deputy Director of the Leibniz Institute for Natural Product Research and Infection Biology
Education:	1996 Diploma in Chemistry, University of Bonn (Germany) 1996–1999 PhD with Prof. Dr. W. Boland, “Stereoselective Synthesis of Lamoxirene and Sphingoid Bases”, University of Bonn and Max-Planck-Institute for Chemical Ecology, Jena (Germany) 1999–2000 Postdoc as a Feodor Lynen Fellow (Alexander von Humboldt Foundation) with Profs. H. G. Floss and B. S. Moore, University of Washington, Seattle (USA) 2001–2005 Head of Junior Research Group, Hans-Knöll-Institute (Germany)
Awards and fellowships:	1999–2000 Feodor Lynen Fellowship (Humboldt) 2005 DECHEMA Young Scientists Award 2005 Thuringian Science Award 2005 Beutenberg Physics and Life Science Award
Current research interests:	Focus on various aspects of natural products from microorganisms; structure elucidation, biosynthesis, enzymology, synthesis, and interactions through biomolecules; investigate the role of the molecular assembly lines in microbial interactions
Hobbies:	Sport and reading



C. Hertweck

Me, myself, and I

I chose chemistry as a career because...my school grades were not good enough to be admitted to study biology!

In a nutshell, my research involves...understanding how microorganisms play Lego.

The part of my job which I enjoy the most is...when I see students succeeding.

My biggest motivation is...the feeling of interrelation.

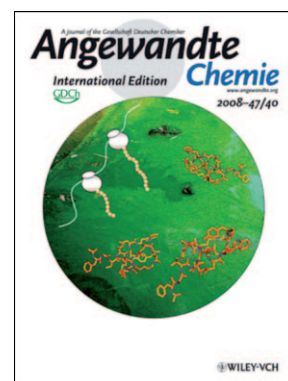
If I could be a piece of lab equipment, I would be...an incubator.

The biggest problem that scientists face is...too much thinking.

In my spare time I...try to effectively counterbalance my work life.

The three things I would take to a desert island would be...my wife, a cook, and a boat.

The most groundbreaking discovery in science in the past century has been...antibiotics.



My five top papers:

1. “Pathogenic Fungus Harbours Endosymbiotic Bacteria for Toxin Production”: L. P. Partida-Martinez, C. Hertweck, *Nature* **2005**, 437, 884–888.
2. “Photochemical Origin of SNF4435C/D and Formation of Orinocin through ‘Polyene Splicing’”: M. Müller, B. Kusebauch, G. Liang, C. M. Beaudry, D. Trauner, C. Hertweck, *Angew. Chem.* **2006**, 118, 7999–8002; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2006**, 45, 7835–7838.
3. “Genomics-Driven Discovery of PKS-NRPS Hybrid Metabolites from *Aspergillus nidulans*”: S. Bergmann, J. Schumann, K. Scherlach, C. Lange, A. A. Brakhage, C. Hertweck, *Nature Chem. Biol.* **2007**, 3, 213–217.
4. “Ribosomal Synthesis of Tricyclic Depsipeptides in Bloom-forming Cyanobacteria”: N. Ziemert, K. Ishida, A. Liaimer, C. Hertweck, E. Dittmann, *Angew. Chem.* **2008**, 120, 7870–7873; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2008**, 47, 7756–7759—featured on the inside cover (see above right).
5. “Sequential Asymmetric Polyketide Heterocyclization Catalyzed by a Single Cytochrome P450 Monooxygenase (AurH)”: M. E. A. Richter, N. Traitcheva, U. Knüpfer, C. Hertweck, *Angew. Chem.* **2008**, 120, 9004–9007; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2008**, 47, 8872–8875.

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The author presented on this page has recently published his 10th article since 2000 in *Angewandte Chemie*:

“Sequential Asymmetric Polyketide Heterocyclization Catalyzed by a Single Cytochrome P450 Monooxygenase (AurH)”: M. E. A. Richter, N. Traitcheva, U. Knüpfer, C. Hertweck, *Angew. Chem.* **2008**, 120, 9004–9007; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2008**, 47, 8872–8875.