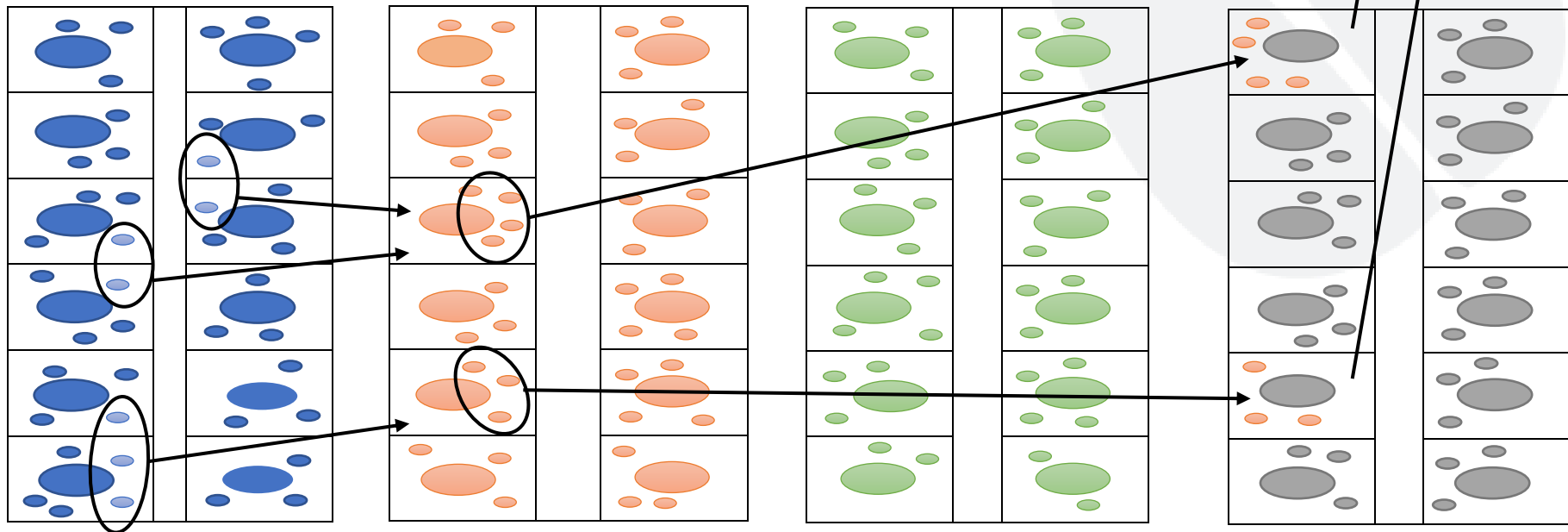


5 types of nursing sow

1. Pigs to sow



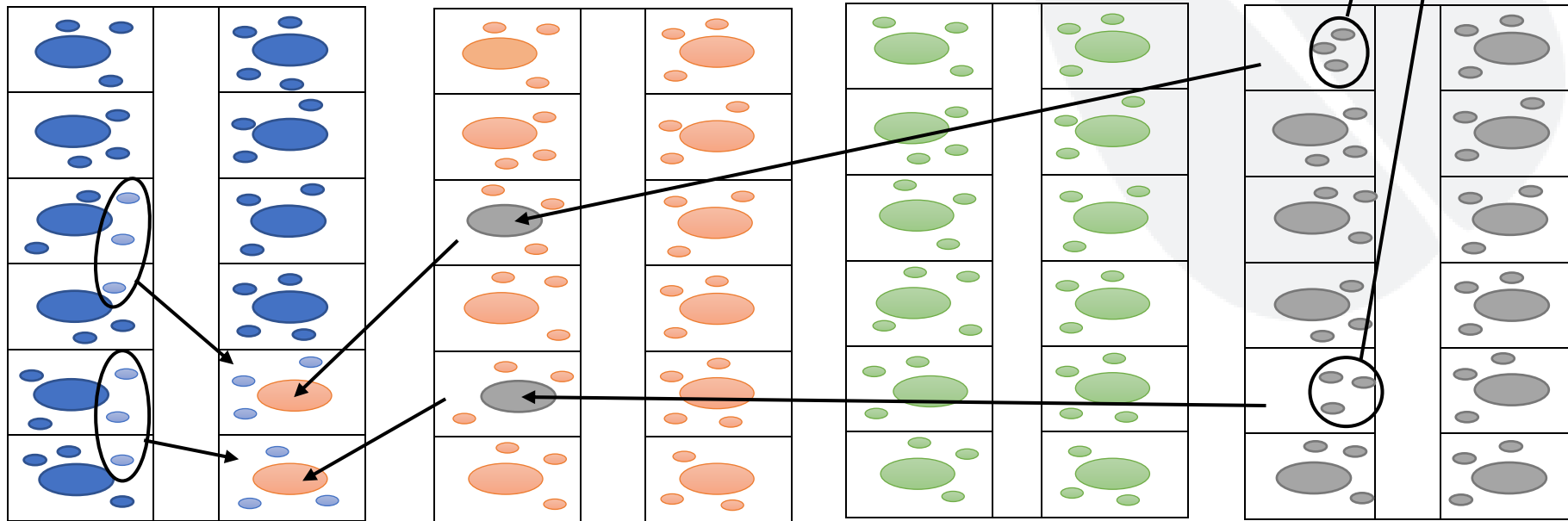
Excess piglets are moved to 1st step nursing sow in section with sows from the week before (5-7 days old piglets). Pigs from 1st step nursing sow are moved to 2nd step nursing sow in section with piglets ready for weaning. Those piglets are weaned.

Advantages: Max utilization of number of farrowing pens

Disadvantages: Poor biosecurity. Major mix of pigs of different ages; piglets are moved forward (when nursing sows are made) and backward (at weaning, and piglets are too small). For that reason, piglets have to be found and weaned from several sections.

5 types of nursing sow

2. Sow to pigs

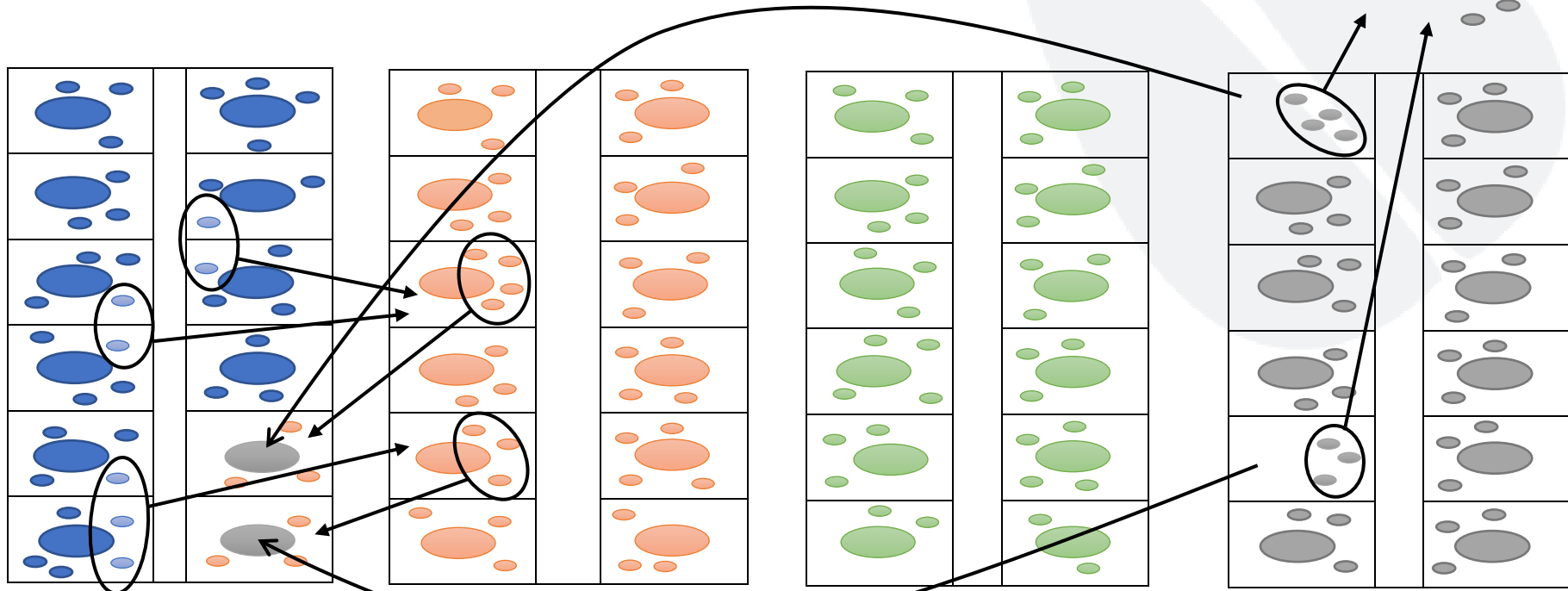


When insertion of sows in farrowing section there must be extra empty pens available to the expected amount of nursing sows. Excess piglets are moved to empty pens in farrowing section together with the 1st step nursing sow. 1st step nursing sows are found in section from last week (5-7 days old piglets). 2nd step nursing sows are found in section with piglets ready for weaning and moved to piglets from 1st nursing sow. The piglets without sows and ready for weaning are weaned.

Advantages: Max biosecurity; piglets of same age are kept together.

Disadvantages: Demands empty farrowing pens for nursing sows in section with farrowing sows. Sows can be difficult to move to a new farrowing pen.

3. Mix

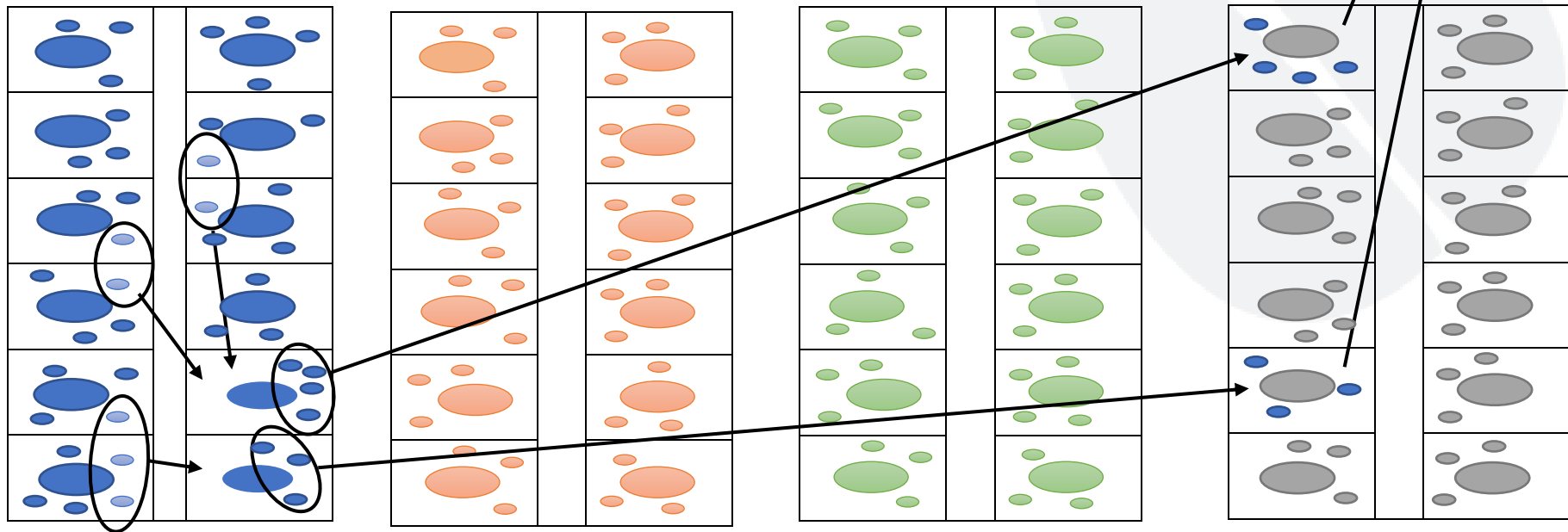


When insertion of sows in farrowing section there must be extra empty pens available to the expected amount of nursing sows. Place the empty pens smart if the sows are placed in a “snake”. Excess piglets are moved to 1st step nursing sow in section with sows that farrowed one week earlier. 1st step nursing sow are not moving. Her piglets are moved to farrowing section together with the 2nd step nursing sow. 2nd step nursing sow are found in section with piglets ready for weaning. Her piglets are weaned.

Advantages: OK biosecurity; piglets of same age are kept together. Suitable with sows placed in “snake” formation.

Disadvantages: Demands empty farrowing pens. Sows can be difficult to move to a new farrowing pen. Big gap between sows own and new piglets.

4. One and a half step

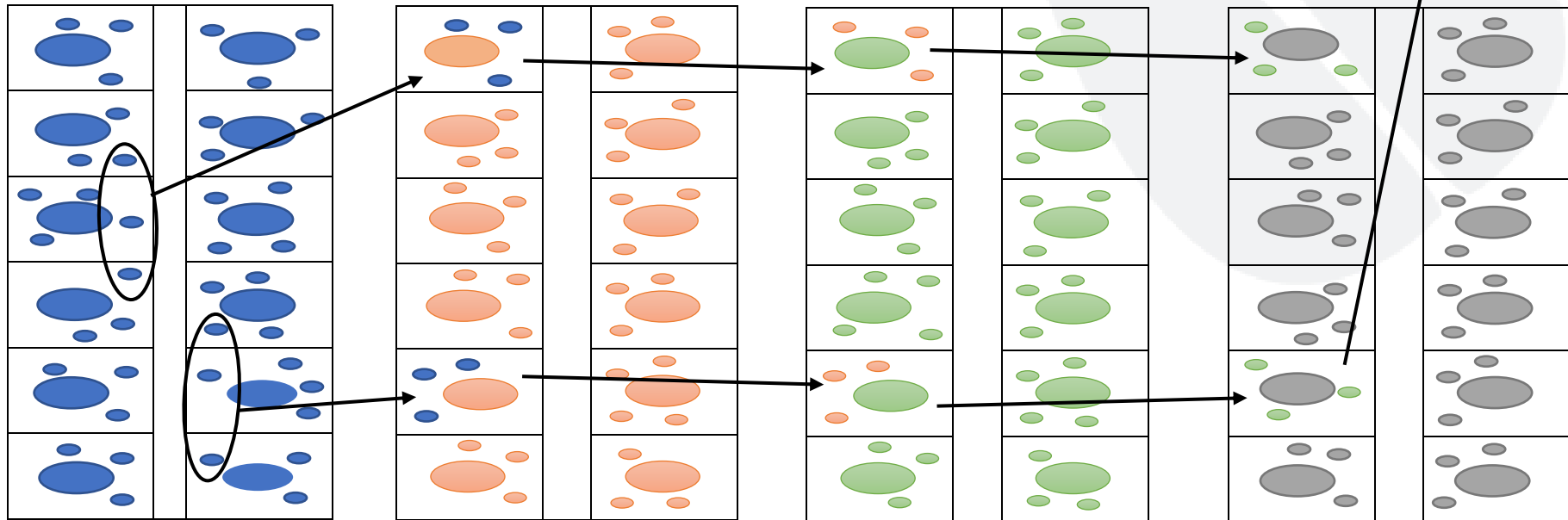


Excess piglets are moved to 1st step nursing sow in same section, that have farrowed earlier that week. Her pigs are moved to 2nd step nursing sow in section with pigs ready for weaning. These piglets are weaned.

Advantages: Max utilization of number of farrowing pens. Good biosecurity. Suitable for 2-week production.

Disadvantages: Very big gap between the age of sow's own piglets and nursing piglets; 2nd step nursing sows accept of piglets are difficult.

5. Push pigs forward



Excess piglets are moved to 1st step nursing sow in section with sows from the week before (5-7 days old piglets). Pigs from 1st step nursing sow are moved to 2nd step nursing sow in section with next week batch (12-14 days old piglets). Pigs from 2nd step nursing sow are moved to 3rd step nursing and so on in case of 5th week batches. When week batch with piglets ready for weaning are reached, the piglets of nursing sow are weaned.

Advantages: Max utilization of number of farrowing pens. Good biosecurity; Piglets of same age are kept together
The sow's accept of nursing pigs are good.

Disadvantages: Many pigs must be moved.