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5 types of nursing sows

Some are virus friendly, others are virus hostile!

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Program

- Why reconsider the subject nursing sows?
- General recommendations
- 5 specific types of nursing sows

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No. 1

Far more pigs are born than the sows can take care of by themselves!

→ It requires successful nursing sows

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Many herds don't have a plan

Do we have a plan?

Where are which pigs?

What do we do when?

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Useful knowledge before choosing a strategy

- Learn to make nursing sows in a healthy way
- Get control of internal infection
- Consider options for sectioning
- Take advantage of the space

Do we have a plan?

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The greatest sinners in diseases in piglets

Wean healthy pigs

- Control of E. Coli
- Control of Rota virus
- Control of Coccidiosis
- Control of virus diseases
 - Influenza, esp. Pandemic
 - PRRS
 - PCV2

Smart Swap

Anteil	EU 2019 2020	EU 2020 2021	EU 2021 2022	EU 2022 2023
Parvovirus	100%	100%	100%	100%
Rotavirus	100%	100%	100%	100%
Coronavirus	100%	100%	100%	100%
Adenovirus	100%	100%	100%	100%
Herpesvirus	100%	100%	100%	100%
Reovirus	100%	100%	100%	100%
Sendai virus	100%	100%	100%	100%
Bluetongue virus	100%	100%	100%	100%
Bluetongue virus type 2	100%	100%	100%	100%
Bluetongue virus type 4	100%	100%	100%	100%
Bluetongue virus type 1	100%	100%	100%	100%
Bluetongue virus type 3	100%	100%	100%	100%
Bluetongue virus type 5	100%	100%	100%	100%
Bluetongue virus type 6	100%	100%	100%	100%
Bluetongue virus type 7	100%	100%	100%	100%
Bluetongue virus type 8	100%	100%	100%	100%
Bluetongue virus type 9	100%	100%	100%	100%
Bluetongue virus type 10	100%	100%	100%	100%
Bluetongue virus type 11	100%	100%	100%	100%
Bluetongue virus type 12	100%	100%	100%	100%
Bluetongue virus type 13	100%	100%	100%	100%
Bluetongue virus type 14	100%	100%	100%	100%
Bluetongue virus type 15	100%	100%	100%	100%
Bluetongue virus type 16	100%	100%	100%	100%
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Bluetongue virus type 86	100%	100%	100%	100%
Bluetongue virus type 87	100%	100%	100%	100%
Bluetongue virus type 88	100%	100%	100%	100%
Bluetongue virus type 89	100%	100%	100%	100%
Bluetongue virus type 90	100%	100%	100%	100%
Bluetongue virus type 91	100%	100%	100%	100%
Bluetongue virus type 92	100%	100%	100%	100%
Bluetongue virus type 93	100%	100%	100%	100%
Bluetongue virus type 94	100%	100%	100%	100%
Bluetongue virus type 95	100%	100%	100%	100%
Bluetongue virus type 96	100%	100%	100%	100%
Bluetongue virus type 97	100%	100%	100%	100%
Bluetongue virus type 98	100%	100%	100%	100%
Bluetongue virus type 99	100%	100%	100%	100%
Bluetongue virus type 100	100%	100%	100%	100%

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General recommendations

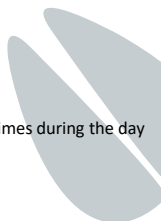
Have a plan!

1st step + 2nd step

2-step (or more)

Make it early in the day – and preferably several times during the day

Collect the smallest pigs at the same sow



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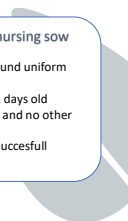
General recommendations

Optimal 1st step nursing sow

- 2nd – 3rd parity ! note! if no diarrhoea gilts can be used with advantage: they nursing previously lactating sows
- Have at least 12 round uniform marzipan pigs
- Own pigs about 5 days old
- Freely available udder with small teats
- Medium condition and no other faults
- Is made when split milking is finished

Optimal 2nd step nursing sow

- Have at least 12 round uniform marzipan pigs
- Own pigs about 21 days old
- Medium condition and no other faults
- Perhaps previous successful nursing sow



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Tips

... to not mess up the heat cyclus of the nursing sow

- Avoid letting the sow stand without pigs to avoid disturbance in the heat cyclus
- Important that the sow accepts the pigs quickly
- Adjusting of the feed

... to encourage the sow's accept of nursing pigs

- Give pain killing to sow before moving
- Let a few big (or all) of the nursing sow's own pigs lie until first suckling is done (about 1,5 hour)
- Perhaps give calming supplement

Beer
Straw
Peber mint oil on nose/in pen
Sedoline

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18 born alive with 10% dead and 11 non-productive days

High own weaning gives fewer nursing sows – and higher weaning age

	% of sows who will work as nursing sows	Nursing days per sow	Litters per year sow	Weaned pigs per year sow	% piglets weaned on 25-26 days
10 frav/frav	1,6 60%	38,6	2,19	35,5	62%
11 frav/frav	1,5 50%	36,5	2,21	36	68%
12 frav/frav	1,26 26%	33,5	2,26	36,6	74%
13 frav/frav	1,2 20%	31,25	2,29	37	80%
14 frav/frav	1,14 14%	28,9	2,32	37,5	86%

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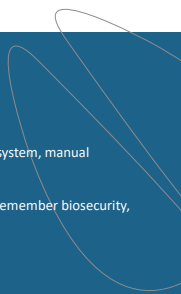
High own weaning

First 2 days: Keep the sow filled (number of teats /+ 1-2)

Give dairy product and ensure weaner feed (mini feeding system, manual feeding several times daily)

High level of health: Control diseases (piglets AND sows), remember biosecurity, all in/all out

Slaughter the right sows out



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5 types of nursing sows

1. Pigs to sow
2. Sow to pigs
3. Mix
4. One and a half step
5. Push pigs forward



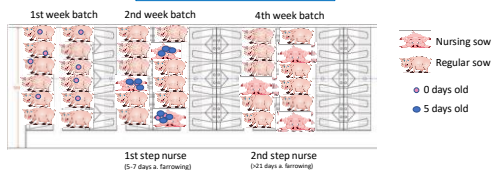
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1. Pigs to sow

High capacity utilisation in farrowing section
Ensures mixing of age groups

Pigs of 5-7 days are mixed with pigs of 21 days → both sows and piglets must be moved backwards in the system at weaning

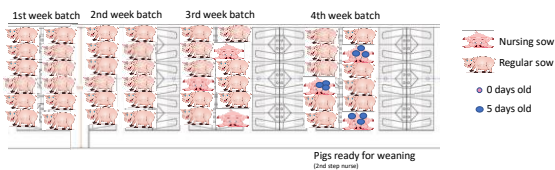


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1. Pigs to sow

When the section is weaned



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1. Pigs to sow

When the section is weaned

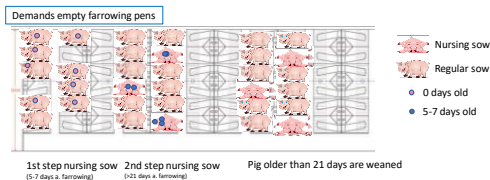


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2. Sow to piglets

No mixing of age groups and infections
Ensures that the oldest pigs are weaned



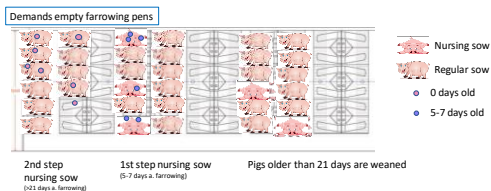
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3. Mix

"Remove nursing sow, let malleim sow stay"

Age of pigs is almost similar to those standing next to them

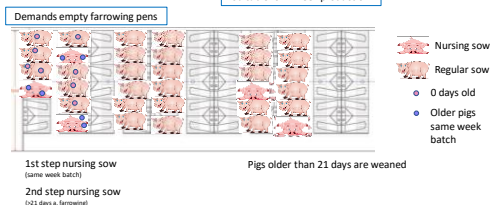


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4. 1½ steps

Age of pigs is almost similar to those standing next to them
Suitable for 2 week production



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"Pigs to sow expanded"

5. Pushing pigs forward

Pigs are always moved forward, and age is almost similar to the pigs in the same section.
Nursing sow accepts pigs of the same age as her own well

1st week batch 2nd week batch 3rd week batch 4th week batch

1st step nursing sow (5-7 days to farrowing) 2nd step nursing sow (12-14 days to farrowing) 3rd step nursing sow (19-23 days to farrowing)

Legend:
 - Nursing sow
 - Regular sow
 - 0 days old
 - 5-7 days old
 - 12-14 days old

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	Advantages	Disadvantages
1. Pigs to sow		
2. Sow to pigs		
3. Mix		
4. 1½ step		
5. Push forward		

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	Advantages	Disadvantages
1. Pigs to sow	Max utilisation of number of farrowing pens	
2. Sow to pigs	Max biosecurity Piglets of same age are kept together	
3. Mix	OK biosecurity Piglets of same age are kept together	
4. 1½ step	Max utilisation of number of farrowing pens Good biosecurity. Suitable for 2 week production	
5. Push forward	Max utilisation of number of farrowing pens Good biosecurity; Piglets of same age are kept together The sow's accept of nursing pigs good	

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	Advantages	Disadvantages
1. Pigs to sow	Max utilisation of number of farrowing pens	Poor biosecurity Big mix of pigs of different ages
2. Sow to pigs	Max biosecurity Piglets of same age are kept together	Demands empty farrowing pens when week batches are farrowing Sows can be difficult to move to a new farrowing pen
3. Mix	OK biosecurity Piglets of same age are kept together	Demands empty farrowing pens Sows can be difficult to move to a new farrowing pen
4. 1½ step	Max utilisation of number of farrowing pens Good biosecurity. Suitable for 2 week production	Big gap between the age of sow's own piglets and nursing piglets
5. Push forward	Max utilisation of number of farrowing pens Good biosecurity; Piglets of same age are kept together The sow's accept of nursing pigs good	More pigs can be moved

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	Advantages	Disadvantages
1. Pigs to sow		No virus control
2. Sow to pigs		Super virus control
3. Mix		Okay virus control
4. 1½ step		Super virus control
5. Push forward		Good virus control

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Thank you!

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