INTRODUCTION

Foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) is a highly contagious mammalian disease that can cause severe economic losses involving ungulates (Ferrari et al., 2016; Sobrino & Domingo, 2004). Cattle, pigs, sheep, goats and water buffalo (Bubalus bubalis) are among the susceptible domestic species, although many cloven-hoofed wild species may also become infected (OIE, 2017a; Olmstead & Rhode, 2015).

To combat the disease, the Brazilian Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Supply (MAPA) developed the National Program for the Eradication and Prevention of FMD (PNEFA). The primary strategy of this programme is to implement disease-free zones according to the status of the disease in the region.